

Hammersmith CHRONICLE



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Thursday, November 12th 2015

Outcry at court closure proposal

BY JACK DIXON

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ELDERLY and disabled people face being "denied justice" if plans to close Hammersmith County Court are approved, critics have claimed.

Council chiefs and local MP Andy Slaughter have spoken out against government proposals to shut the court in Talgarth Road.

Critics say some of Hammersmith's most vulnerable residents – including the disabled and people with mobility issues – will be unable to access the justice system if they are forced to travel further afield.

The proposed closure has been condemned as the second part of a double whammy for justice in the borough, following the announcement of plans to downgrade Fulham police station.

A full public consultation was carried out between July and October, with ministers expected to make a

final decision on the future of the court early next year.

Under the plans, hearings would be transferred to Wandsworth County Court. The relocation would create extra capacity at Hammersmith Magistrates' Court.

Government ministers say the closure, which is part of a national programme of reform, will create a "modern and more user-focused" service.

But Hammersmith MP Andy Slaughter, a shadow justice minister, warned that Wandsworth County Court would not be able to cope with the additional workload.

"The closure of the court will create capacity problems at Wandsworth County Court," he said. "Wandsworth would need substantial expansion to deal with the influx of new staff and users. The closure would increase the travel and waiting times for users and primarily affect those on modest means and those re-

TURN TO PAGE 3



■ **LONDON REMEMBERS:** Thousands of proud Londoners paid their respects on Sunday to those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in global conflicts. The Queen led tributes at the Cenotaph while many other Londoners stood in silence at services across the capital.

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Win Winter Wonderland trip **Page 12**

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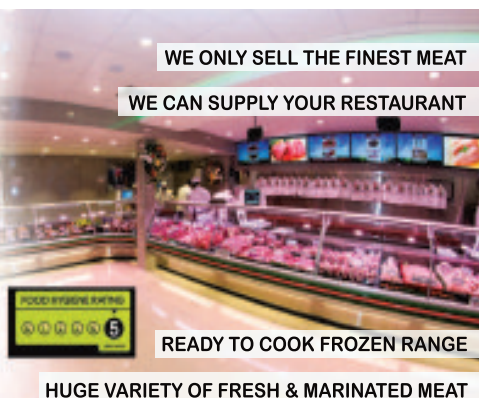


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NEW PROGRAMME TO BOLSTER LONDON'S THRIVING TECHNOLOGY SECTOR

Equip our youngsters with digital skills

THE Mayor of London Boris Johnson has launched a new £5 million programme that aims to ensure young Londoners have the digital skills they need to access jobs in the capital's thriving technology sector.

London is widely regarded as the most important tech hub in Europe, and the city's information technology workforce is expected to grow by 30 per cent between 2012 and 2022 – to 274,000 people. The number of digital technology companies in the capital is also increasing, growing by 46 per cent in the last five years to around 40,000 businesses and forecast to rise to 51,500 by 2025.

However, the mayor is keen to tackle the emerging gap between the skills young Londoners have or are being equipped with and what employers say they need in order to sustain London's growth. He also wants to increase the number of women taking up jobs in the sector, with women currently making up just a third of the tech workforce.

The new Digital Talent Programme,



FROM THE
MAYOR'S OFFICE

which has been launched in partnership with the London Enterprise Panel will ensure that Londoners aged 14 to 24 are best placed to take advantage of the capital's tech boom and inspire a generation to access jobs in the digital technology industry. It will also look to open up pathways between businesses and colleges so tech companies are able to select the young people with the skills they need to help them flourish.

Mr Johnson, who is also Chairman of the LEP, said: "London is a hotbed of top technological innovation, brimming with creative minds who are helping to boost the capital's economy and that of the whole country. However, it is absolutely vital that we nurture our tech stars of the future and make sure that our deep reserves of talent do not run dry. This new scheme will help London to remain ahead of the game when it comes to tech and give thousands of young Londoners the chance to share in the city's economic success."

The Digital Talent Programme will boost the number of young people finding employment in the tech sector by:

■ Establishing a London Digital Talent Pipeline to inspire more young Londoners to access jobs requiring digital skills. The pipeline will be designed by a board of key employers who will define the skills needed to work in the sector and engage schools and further education colleges to help them develop their curriculum to meet those needs. It is expected that this will lead to the creation

of 2,000 new learning places and will deliver 1,000 young Londoners into digital jobs. It will also offer higher level digital skills training to university students from disadvantaged groups.

■ Increasing the number of places for people aged 16 and over at further education colleges so that young Londoners can study industry-designed and endorsed digital short courses that are going to lead to a job. This will see five new or enhanced digital learning hubs within the capital with new kit provided to ensure industry-standard training facilities.

■ With a recent survey from O2 revealing that 23 per cent of parents believe digital skills to be irrelevant to their children, the new initiative will also launch an awareness campaign to increase the knowledge of paths into digital careers.

In a related move, the mayor and LEP have also announced a £50,000 scheme to deliver a Digital Careers Roadshow in Barking and Dagenham, Enfield, Greenwich, Tower Hamlets and Ealing. It is expected that this initiative will create at

least 250 jobs and apprenticeships at 50 of the capital's tech companies. The programme will also train 100 Job Centre workers to become tech mentors so that they have a better understanding of the tech sector, its skills requirements and how to spot potential recruits.

Lucy Haynes, CBI London director, said: "The technology and creative sectors have shot up the ladder as some of the fastest-growing sectors in London, with many businesses seeing them as holding the key to the capital's future growth. To make sure we remain globally competitive, it's vital that young Londoners have the skills and the knowledge to grow the city's economy in the 21st century. We welcome the mayor's digital talent programme, and encourage firms to play as full a part as possible in it."

Colin Stanbridge, chief executive of the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry, said: "It is crucial that young Londoners are equipped with the digital skills businesses need to succeed in today's economy."



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NEWS FROM HAMMERSMITH

LWN



■ **CHEERS!** A Hammersmith pub famed for its quirky features and extensive range of craft beers has been honoured with a prestigious award for the latest chapter in its ongoing success story.

Staff at The Distillers, in Fulham Palace Road, were named as winners of the Fuller's Brewery Outstanding Achievement award last week. The pub, which underwent a full refurbishment only 18 months ago, has since gone from strength to strength. And the team, led by manager Mike Dilnot, were recognised for their efforts by the brewery's senior executives at a special ceremony held at the company's famous Griffin Brewery in

Chiswick on Tuesday (November 3). Mr Dilnot and his staff were presented with the outstanding achievement award, two cases of champagne and an engraved plaque for the bar.

"It's fantastic to receive this award," said Mr Dilnot. "I'm incredibly proud of my team. I've enjoyed every minute at The Distillers, engaging our customers through our vast range of beers, delicious food offering and first-class service. This win is a true testament to the hard work of my team and the progress that we have made over the past year."

Fuller's chairman Michael Turner reserved special praise for the

Hammersmith pub's attention to detail, paying tribute to a job well done following the refurbishment in May 2014.

He added: "This pub is quite unique, housing some of the quirkiest features in the Fuller's estate. The constant rotation of beers and changing weekly menus means that The Distillers certainly stands out from the competition. Mike and his team have done an incredible job growing the business since the pub's refurbishment last year and this award is well deserved."

Pictured are Mr Dilnot, centre, and operations manager Aly Hillier, with Mr Turner.

Access to local justice will be damaged if our county court closes, critics insist

FROM PAGE 1

liant on public transport. Disabled users and others with mobility issues would be particularly affected."

Mr Slaughter also said he was concerned that separate plans to reduce Fulham police station to a counter service would leave the borough with only one fully-functioning police station and no civil justice centre.

He added: "This is the opposite of local justice, which is a long-established and important principle of the criminal and civil justice systems."

Consultation papers published by the Ministry of Justice show that 62 per cent of the court's capacity was utilised during the 2014/15 financial year.

If the closure is approved, the MoJ's calculations suggest users would face a 20-minute journey by car, or 35 minutes by public transport, to reach Wandsworth County Court, which is six miles away.

Councillor Michael Cartwright, Hammersmith and Fulham council's deputy leader, said the "unacceptable" plans were an "attack on access to justice".

He added: "Any residents seeking justice will be ad-

versely affected and there is a very real danger of those who find it difficult to travel, including elderly and disabled residents, being denied justice altogether.

"Yet again, the one-off savings made as the government sells off assets take no account of the ongoing impacts on residents across the borough."

Hammersmith County Court is one of 10 courts and tribunals in London that are set for closure under the proposals.

Shailesh Vara, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Courts and Legal Aid, said in the consultation paper: "We are reforming the courts and tribunal service so that it meets the needs of modern day users."

"As we bring in digital technology for better and more efficient access to justice, fewer people will need to physically be in court. This means that we will need fewer buildings and with many already underused and in poor quality, now is a good time to review the estate."

A spokesman for Her Majesty's Courts and Tribunals Service, the MoJ agency responsible for the administration of courts and tribunals, said: "We will consider all responses before ministers make a decision."

Unrivalled prosperity lifts gloom

BY JACK DIXON

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A NEW study has found people living in Hammersmith to be among the most prosperous in Britain, as wage packets swell to five times the national average.

Research suggests that rising incomes in west London are compensating for residents' relative unhappiness.

The boroughs of Hammersmith and Fulham and Kensington and Chelsea were placed at the top of the prosperity index in a research project carried out by think tank the Legatum Institute.

The study found that residents were more miserable than most other parts of the UK but were lifted in the prosperity stakes by their soaring pay packets. The two boroughs were ranked surprisingly high in the gloominess list – 84th out of 170.

However, "exceptional" wealth was found to be overriding unhappiness to put Hammersmith among the country's most prosperous places to live.

Analysts at Legatum calculated that the average income across the two boroughs had now risen to £133,000 – more than five times the UK average.

The institute's 'Geography of Prosperity' index compared 170 areas across Britain in

order to find the most prosperous people.

Its findings were based on measuring average income per person compared with happiness levels.

Four of the top five most prosperous places in the country were found to be in London, with Westminster, Wandsworth and Camden rated highly.

According to the study, the average annual income in Hammersmith and Fulham was £115,000 higher than the UK's least prosperous place, Wolverhampton.

Sian Hansen, executive director at the Legatum Institute, said: "The 'Geography of Prosperity' index reveals that prosperity is about more than just wealth – it is about feeling that one's life is worthwhile.

"The index shows that while robust economic success can make an area prosperous, this in itself is not enough.

"Some of the most prosperous areas of the country are those where, regardless of their income, people have the opportunity to lead healthy, fulfilling and prosperous lives."

Inner London contains nine of the top 10 wealthiest areas in the country, but also three of the least prosperous spots.

Council plugs new electric car charging points

DOZENS of new electric car-charging bays are set to be rolled out across Hammersmith and Fulham by the end of next year.

The borough council says use of zero-emission cars is

increasing and that there is growing demand for charging points. Planning applications for 10 on-street charging bays have been submitted to the council by Source London Network. Further applications

are expected to be submitted in the coming months.

If approved, the first 10 bays could be in place by early next year with additional charging points operational by the end of the year.

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20 escape unhurt from blaze at flats

BY JACK DIXON

jack@londonweeklynews.co.uk

TWENTY people were evacuated from a block of flats in Hammersmith last week after a fire broke out on the first floor.

Residents of the five-storey block in Queen Caroline Street made it out before firefighters arrived on the scene last Saturday afternoon (October 31).

The blaze caused damage to a five-roomed flat on the first floor but no injuries were reported. Around 20 fire service personnel arrived at the block shortly after 1pm and fought the

flames for almost an hour before the situation was brought under control.

Crews from Hammersmith, Chelsea, Wandsworth and Chiswick were all called to attend the incident after the alarm was raised.

The London Fire Brigade posted an update on Twitter at 3.15pm, which read: "The flat fire on Queen Caroline Street, Hammersmith, is under control. Thankfully no injuries."

A further statement from the brigade later that afternoon confirmed that damage had been caused to the first floor flat but that occupants had safely evacuated the block.

Fire investigators are still examining evidence to determine what caused the blaze.

A spokesman said: "The fire damaged a five-roomed flat on the first floor and 20 people left the five-storey block before the brigade arrived."

"The brigade was called at 1.01pm and the fire was under control at 1.53pm. The cause of the fire is under investigation."

Meanwhile, fire chiefs have reported a reduction in the number of Bonfire Night incidents, after celebrations were held across the capital last week.

Provisional figures show the London Fire Brigade attended only 72 fires on Thursday night (November 5), compared with a total of 112 last year.

The brigade's 999 call handlers dealt with 575 calls and firefighters attended 343 incidents.

Safety bosses said the bad weather had dampened proceedings, with several events cancelled due to rain.

London Fire Commissioner Ron Dobson said: "It is pleasing that our early figures show a further reduction in the number of fires that our crews attended on November 5 but it's no time to rest on our laurels."



■ CALL-OUT: Crews from four fire stations attended.



■ **ALL ABOARD:** A community 'bus day' project has helped to make sure vulnerable people feel safer when using public transport in Hammersmith. The scheme, which is supported by the Met Police and Transport for London, was set up to give disabled people more confidence when travelling on the buses. Those who took part in the project boarded a bus at Lillie Road before taking a 15-minute trip around the borough. Officers were on hand to offer helpful tips about how to stay safe on the network. The Met's Sergeant Dave Stevenson said the 'bus day' initiative was a "crucial part of building trust and confidence with our entire community". He added: "Everyone who attended the event learnt so much – from what revenue protection inspectors do to what you should do if you witness a crime being committed, or find a suspect bag or package."

Arts venues urged to be more dementia friendly

CHARITY leaders have called for arts venues in Hammersmith to take further steps towards becoming dementia friendly.

The Alzheimer's Society wants theatres, galleries, museums and arts centres to

be made more accessible for people living with dementia.

The appeal follows the launch of a new guide to help venues ensure signage is clear and quiet areas are available. Nikki Crowther, of the Alzheimer's Society, said:

"Everyone has the right to participate in the arts and, for people with dementia, we know that there are many benefits. It can improve quality of life and wellbeing by stimulating emotions and creativity."

Prison smuggling bid thwarted

A COUPLE have been sentenced after they were caught trying to smuggle drugs, alcohol and fast food into Wormwood Scrubs prison using a rudimentary fishing line.

Karl Jensen, 27, and his girlfriend, Lisa Mary Hutchinson, 26, both of St Ervans Road in Ladbroke Grove, were spotted on CCTV in Artillery Lane last year, attempting to pass the items over the prison wall.

Jensen was seen tying a wash bag to a rope, which was used as a fishing line to smuggle bags of cocaine and cannabis over the prison wall. Hutchinson was also caught on camera at the scene.

The items recovered included a knife, a bottle of vodka, a McDonald's McMuffin, a plastic Kinder Surprise egg containing mobile phone SIM cards, a Smartwatch and several USB chargers.

Detective Constable Andy Griffin, of the Hammersmith

and Fulham CID, said: "Jensen and Hutchinson tried to smuggle prohibited items including drugs, alcohol and a knife inside a prison – the combination could have been deadly."

"Thankfully, vigilant prison staff foiled the plot and they were quickly arrested."

"This case serves as a strong reminder of the very serious consequences of smuggling prohibited goods into a prison."

The couple were spotted by CCTV operators on October 15 last year, as Jensen tied a small bag to a rope and pulled it up over the prison walls and into one of the cells.

Police were immediately alerted and were able to apprehend the pair before they could flee the scene. Prison officers traced the bag to the recipient's cell where the items were recovered. Further investigations at the couple's home led to the discovery of mobile phone top-up cards with their SIMs re-

moved and a Smartwatch box which was marked with the same serial number as the one smuggled into the prison.

Jensen, who pleaded guilty to seven charges at an earlier hearing, was sentenced to two-and-a-half years' imprisonment, while Hutchinson received a 12-month community order and is required to attend a women's programme for 31 days.

Governor Peter Nichols, of HMP Wormwood Scrubs, said: "This successful prosecution was due to the efforts made between both agencies – the police and the prison service – and highlights the importance of sharing of information with our partners."

"A notice to prisoners will be published to highlight this and the intent that Wormwood Scrubs is committed to working with our partner agencies to assist in prosecuting those who attempt to convey and distribute illicit items into our prison."

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Savings in store for users of new Hammersmith app

BUSINESS leaders have launched a mobile phone app designed to help shoppers make the most of deals and discounts at Hammersmith stores.

A free E-Privilege card can be downloaded from the App Store or Google Play, giving users access to offers

at shops, restaurants and pubs. The app has been devised by the Hammersmith Business Improvement District.

BID director Patricia Bench said: "For many years now we have run a very successful privilege card scheme but we are finding that more and

more people are using their smartphones to shop.

"We wanted to create something for the modern shopper, something that would improve their Hammersmith experience by giving them great money-off deals at the touch of a button."

LONDON WIDE

LWN



■ **TOP DRAW:** Pop artist Mark Wigan was in London as part of his collaboration with footwear firm Dr Martens. His modern hieroglyphics have been used by the company to launch a new range. The artist, pictured here with London Weekly News writer Nicky Sweetland, visited the manufacturer's Oxford Street store last week where he spent the day customising fans' shoes and drawing murals.



■ **BOLD MASTER:** London's Arch Hotel will play host to an unusual learning experience this month. Award-winning chocolatier Paul Wayne Gregory is bringing his expertise to the hotel and will run an exclusive masterclass on the art of chocolate. The Marylebone hotel welcomes the chocolate artist and sculptor at the The Festive Art of Chocolate event, which takes place on November 19 at 6.30pm.

More employers promise to pay the London living wage

BY LWN REPORTER
editorial@londonweeklynews.co.uk

LONDON'S mayor Boris Johnson has announced a near three per cent increase in the London living wage and revealed another 295 employers this year are now paying their staff the capital's hourly rate.

The London living wage has increased from £9.15 to £9.40 per hour, a rise of 2.7 per cent. Its calculation is designed to reflect the higher costs of living in the city.

The mayor also revealed the number of employers now paying their staff at this rate has grown from 429 to 724 in the last 12 months. Some 27 employers publicly backed the living wage in 2008.

Major brands including Oliver Bonas, Chelsea Football Club and GlaxoSmithKline have joined the army of organisations now accredited as London living wage employ-

ers over the last year, while last month Lidl became the first major supermarket to pay its staff the rate.

Since 2005 the London living wage has grown by 40.3 per cent and more than 30,000 workers across the capital have benefited from the increased wage since 2011.

Mr Johnson said: "I am delighted that more than 700 employers have signed up to paying the London living wage and we now have tens of thousands of employees being properly rewarded for the work they do.

"As our economy continues to grow and employment in London increases, it is essential all hard-working Londoners receive a fair share of the proceeds of the capital's success.

"I have long argued that those companies that can afford to pay the London living wage should do so because there are clear benefits for employers in increasing productivity and reducing staff turnover, while it makes a real difference to the quality of life for employees. I

encourage businesses in the capital to follow the example of Lidl and Oliver Bonas and pay their staff the London living wage."

The mayor has written to more than 100 chief executives in the last 12 months, primarily in the retail, legal and service provider sectors, as well as at football clubs and a number of FTSE 100 companies.

Research produced this year by the University of Strathclyde and the Living Wage Foundation highlighted the benefits to businesses that come from paying the living wage. As well as boosting the wages of staff, it can reduce staff turnover and absenteeism, increase worker morale and loyalty, boost productivity and enhance the reputation of an organisation.

Oliver Tress, Managing Director and Founder of Oliver Bonas, said: "It makes complete sense to pay all our team at Oliver Bonas the London living wage. We want to pay a wage which both rewards our team for their hard work and loyalty and

reflects the 'real' cost of living. We were the first retailer on the high street to make this commitment and would encourage others to do so too."

Sarah Vero, Director at the Living Wage Foundation, said: "The announcement of the new, increased London living wage rate brings a welcome pay rise to thousands of workers across the capital. Londoners are well aware that living costs in the capital have been rising faster than wages, and for many staff that are paid salaries close to the national minimums, life in this amazing city can be clouded by struggling from one pay day to the next. London businesses are leading the way, with hundreds of employers voluntarily paying their people the London living wage. This independently calculated rate reflects the real cost of living in London. Hard working Londoners are the capital's life blood, they need a wage that respects the contribution they make to this great city."



■ **PAYING UP:**
The mayor of London Boris Johnson.

Night Tube 'not critical'

LONDON'S Night Tube – which has been derailed by a stand-off between bosses and the unions – is "not absolutely critical", mayor Boris Johnson said.

With talks between London Underground and the unions grounded in a stalemate, Mr Johnson told LBC Radio the weekend service was not "absolutely critical".

Asked whether he could provide a date for the introduction of the 24-hour Tube, the mayor said: "This is something that the city of London has done without for 150 years. What I won't do is pay an unreasonable price for it, which Londoners would feel in their fares. There's a very good deal on the table. I just hope that members of the Tube unions will get a chance to look at it. No one will work more hours than they do today. Drivers have the same number of weekends as now."

Mr Johnson told listeners: "I want you to know that this is something I think we should have but – I hope my attitude is clear – it is not something that I regard as absolutely critical."

Extra tickets

WITH tickets for London's New Year's Eve fireworks display selling fast, an extra 13,000 are to be released, as a result of a new viewing area being opened up on Waterloo Bridge.

It means thousands more people will be able to see the event, which is being organised in partnership with the world's leading children's organisation Unicef.

The event was ticketed for the first time last year and attracted 100,000 people. The new viewing area will enable more people to see the display safely.

Schools urged to remember Holocaust

THE London Assembly has called on schools across the capital to do more to teach the lessons of the Holocaust and other global genocides, saying it is "vital" to teach children about humanity's worst horrors, writes Geoff Baker.

Last week Assembly Members agreed a unanimous motion asking the Greater London Authority and city boroughs to sustain their efforts to raise awareness of past atrocities such as the Holocaust, in which six million Jews were murdered, and the Rwandan Genocide, in which more than 800,000 died.

The motion noted "that the Greater London Authority and London's boroughs should continue to work with local schools, charities, and other stakeholder organisations to promote understanding of this

important issue, to ensure that the Holocaust, and other genocides, are remembered through the generations."

Assembly Member Jennette Arnold, who proposed the motion, said: "It's a tragedy that we continue to live in a world where some people still fear persecution because of their race, ethnicity or religion. If we're serious about laying down the foundations for peaceful societies then we have to learn the lessons of the past.

"Holocaust Memorial Day ensures that the horrors of this genocide, and others, are never forgotten.

"It's absolutely vital that we teach our children about the Holocaust in the hope that future generations can continue the pursuit of

harmony and never have to face the terror of genocide."

Tony Arbour, the Assembly Member who seconded the motion said: "It is extremely important that we remember all acts of genocide and the human suffering these events have caused. Holocaust Memorial Day presents an opportunity for us to educate school pupils about this and other such atrocities."

The text of the motion was: "This Assembly notes that approximately six million people were killed during the Holocaust, including 1.5 million Jewish children. Since the Holocaust, other genocides, such as the Rwandan Genocide of 1994, have killed millions of people.

"Even now, people all over the world live in fear of being killed

due to their race, ethnicity, religion, culture, or nationality. This Assembly is proud that the UK has always played a major role in ensuring that the Holocaust is never forgotten. Holocaust Memorial Day has taken place in the UK since 2001, with a UK event and over 3,600 local activities taking place on or around January 27 each year.

"The Holocaust Educational Trust has taken thousands of UK students to visit former concentration camps in order to teach them the lessons of the Holocaust. This Assembly believes that Holocaust Memorial Day should continue to be commemorated in the UK.

"Children should be encouraged and enabled to actively promote the lessons learnt from the Holocaust and other genocides."

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LONDON REMEMBERS



■ **FOCUS OF REMEMBRANCE:** Scenes from the Cenotaph in Whitehall on Sunday, as veterans marched past appreciative crowds. Bottom: the Prime Minister prepares to lead political tributes. Pictures: Richard Austin



■ **NATION UNITED:** Whitehall plays host to a sombre union of service personnel past and present, applauded by a respectful public. Pictures: Richard Austin

Proud Londoners join Royal family in salute to fallen

BY JACK DIXON
jack@londonweeklynews.co.uk

OF all the landmark anniversaries to be commemorated this year, London's solemn service of Remembrance – a simple yet dignified salute to the fallen – remains one of the capital's proudest traditions.

On few occasions are Londoners so united as when stood shoulder to shoulder, heads bowed in quiet contemplation, holding in their minds the memories of loved ones lost.

As ever, proceedings at the Cenotaph and services across the capital were dutifully observed by Londoners defiant in their refusal to forget.

The break-neck speed of city life was brought to a sudden stop on Sunday as hundreds of thousands put their lives on pause to remember, if only for a moment, the sacrifices made by so many in the name of their country.

Their lapels emblazoned with symbols of a lifetime's service, thousands of veterans marched proudly past the Cenotaph after two minutes' silence had been immaculately observed by all gathered at Whitehall.

And the scene was recreated with great dedication in all corners of the capital, as Londoners fell silent at the turn of the eleventh hour.

"It is a time to remember and a time to mourn," concluded Rifleman Paul Jacobs, the Brixton-born ex-serviceman blinded in Afghanistan in 2009, who delivered his own citation as part of the Royal British Legion's Festival of Remembrance.

"We stand here in recognition of their sacrifice and in support of today's veterans who survived war and conflict, for many their lives forever changed."

"We stand in respect as a nation united in Remembrance for those who have served our great country, and for our brothers and sisters who serve today as they work for peace."

This year, perhaps more than any other, has been chaptered by reminders of war – and of the servicemen and women who have given their lives in the defence of others.

In 2015 London has led the way in marking 70 years since the end of the Second World War, as well as the landmark anniversaries of VE Day, VJ Day and Anzac Day.

It will continue to do so as the

ever, led the tributes to all those members of the armed forces who have lost their lives in conflicts on land, at sea and in the air.

Laying the first of several poppy wreaths that adorned the memorial in a shock of red, Her Majesty was followed by the Prime Minister David Cameron and leaders of the other main political parties in paying their respects.

The Duke of York, Prince William and Prince Harry also attended the ceremony, while King Willem-Alexander of the Netherlands was also invited to lay a wreath in recognition of the 70th anniversary of his country's liberation following the Second World War.

Religious leaders, senior military personnel and a host of other dignitaries from across the Commonwealth completed the scene, as an audience of thousands gathered at the Cenotaph.

The two-gun salute was fired from Horse Guards Parade on the stroke of 11am, before the familiar notes of the *Last Post* rang out to signal the end of the two minutes' silence.

The moving ceremony was brought to a close with the veterans' traditional march past, the memorial now laden with wreaths in honour of the fallen.

Rifleman Jacobs was awarded the George Medal for bravery after losing his sight in an explosion in Helmand Province six years ago.

Two of his colleagues were killed in the blast. His words captured perfectly the spirit of Remembrance.

"The George Medal was given to me for bravery and courage," he said. "But for me, it actually represents the two men that fell that day in aid of their country – Sergeant Paul McAleese and Private Jonathan Young."

'It is a time to remember and a time to mourn'

Rifleman Paul Jacobs from Brixton, blinded in Afghanistan in 2009



poignant First World War commemorations, which began last August, a century after war was declared, bind the nation in four years of solemn remembrance.

Sunday's service at the Cenotaph, although shortened this year to reduce the amount of time veterans were left to stand, was no less affecting.

The Queen, dignified and stoic as

LONDON REMEMBERS



■ **MARCH PAST: Veterans and serving personnel unite.** Pictures: Richard Austin



■ **FIREPOWER: Uniformed personnel provide the military dimension to Sunday morning's Remembrance events in Whitehall.** Pictures: Richard Austin



■ **IN FOCUS: Members of the public secure their own images of Sunday's Cenotaph ceremony while Prince Andrew, Prince Harry and Prince William reflect the solemnity of the occasion.** Pictures: Richard Austin
MORE REPORTS AND PICTURES: PAGES 8&9



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The Grove Neighbourhood Centre	7 Bradmore Park Road	Hammersmith	W6 0DT



LONDON REMEMBERS



■ **ROYAL RESPECTS:** The Royal family, led by the Queen, Prince Philip and Princess Anne, above, brought the nation together to mark Remembrance Sunday at the Cenotaph in Whitehall. The Duchess of Cambridge also attended proceedings, while the princes, William, Harry and Andrew, also played their part.

Pictures: Richard Austin



■ **KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA REMEMBERS:** The royal borough paid its respects on Sunday to those who gave their lives in past conflicts. Pictured left, the Mayor, Councillor Robert Freeman, leads the borough in its salute to the service personnel who have laid down their lives over the years. Below, the Royal British Legion standard provides the iconic rallying point for acts of Remembrance, while cadets prepare to play their part in proceedings as well.

Pictures: Jack Dixon



LONDON REMEMBERS



■ **SUPPORT:** Trooper Tom Ward said he and his comrades were heartened by the demonstration of public support.

Picture: Marco Cillario



■ **FULHAM'S SALUTE:** Sunday's Service of Remembrance at All Saints Church.

Picture: Marco Cillario



■ **WE REMEMBER:** Canon Joseph Hawes leads Fulham's salute to the fallen.

Picture: Marco Cillario

Naming the victims 'a gracious act'

BY MARCO CILLARIO
editorial@londonweeklynews.co.uk

THE people of Fulham paid tribute to the men and women who gave their lives at war with a parade and a service on Remembrance Sunday.

The Fulham-based Squadron of the Royal Yeomanry, a regiment of the British Army Reserve, contingents from the police and fire service, representatives of St John Ambulance and the Army Cadet Force gathered at Parsons Green at 10.30am and marched along with the Fulham Brass Band through New King's Road to All Saints Church.

A service was conducted in the churchyard at 11am by the Reverend Canon Joseph Hawes in remembrance of all the soldiers who died during conflicts in the last century. Hundreds of members of the public also attended.

During the service, wreaths were placed around the war memorial in commemoration of the fallen by Cllr Daryl Brown, Deputy Mayor of Hammersmith and Fulham council, Vice-Lord Lieutenant of Greater London Wing Commander Mike Dudgeon and representatives of the organisations taking part in the event.

"Remembering is naming," said Reverend Hawes. "We name the nameless victims of the world's many cruelties."

"Remembering and naming can be a powerful and gracious act of understanding and learning to look back at past horrors and tragedies to try and live better, create a better world, to try and understand so that it might never happen again."

Several members of the Royal Yeomanry said that they had lost comrades serving overseas.

Captain Matt Fincham, from the Yeomanry's Fulham branch, said: "This is the time in which I think of my friends who have died in Afghanistan – and it is also the time when we show ourselves in the community."

Trooper Tom Ward added: "People come out to support us and it's a good feeling. It makes you feel that you are part of something special."

It was a very significant event for many members of the public too.

"I come every year," said Philipp Brand, 38, whose grandfather served in Africa during the Second World War. "I am here for him as well."

Dorinda Haslam, 73, whose father fought in Africa and Italy between 1942 and 1945, added: "We must not forget."



■ **REMEMBRANCE RUN:** One of the many moped enthusiasts who assembled in Fulham on Sunday morning before heading into central London for Remembrance commemorations.

Picture: Jack Dixon

RESIDENTS CASH IN WITH FINANCIAL INCENTIVE TO FREE UP SPACE

People all over West and South West London are capitalising on a service that allows you to free up space in your homes whilst adding capital to your bank accounts. How? By offering you money on the spot for your used & unwanted gadgets. To most of us that would mean smart TVs, smartphones, laptops and other household electronics.

The Independent has stated that "There are 90 million unused electronic gadgets in the UK, which would be worth more than £7bn if we cashed them in", and this was speaking only of mobile phones! So

how can we take advantage of this gadget-cashing exercise? Well, it's simpler than you might think.

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LONDON WIDE

Thames tippers a threat to dolphins

JUST when whales, dolphins and porpoises have returned to the cleaned-up Thames thoughtless Londoners are risking killing them again with large scale river rubbish tipping, writes Geoff Baker.

Last week the London Assembly called on the public to stop "Thames tipping" after members heard that more than 300 tonnes of rubbish is removed from the river each year.

Earlier this year the Zoological Society of London re-

ceived support from the London Assembly for its Cleaner Thames Campaign. Assembly Members agreed a unanimous motion encouraging Londoners to stop using the Thames as a tip.

Assembly Member Richard Tracey, who proposed the motion, said: "The Thames is a precious and valuable resource for the whole of London and we must all do our bit to keep it clean. Hopefully, with the support of the Mayor, Assembly and the public we can do just that."

Murad Qureshi AM, who seconded the motion said: "The River Thames has seen a remarkable transformation in recent decades from its status as 'biologically dead' to its current revitalised state. But there is still a long way to go to tackle littering and reduce sewage overflow incidents.

"There is no doubt that complacency is the greatest barrier to a cleaner river and that's why I'm happy to support the PLA's campaign to raise awareness of this vital issue."

Dr Paul Clark, a researcher at the Natural History Museum, has warned that plastic can be especially lethal to river life.

He said: "Plastic can have a damaging impact on underwater life. Large pieces can trap animals but smaller pieces can be inadvertently eaten. The toxic chemicals they contain, in high doses, could harm the health of wildlife."

The Assembly noted that among the 300 tonnes of rubbish is recovered from the Thames every year, the amount of plastics, especially plastic bottles growing annually.



■ PLEA: London Assembly Member Richard Tracey.

vealed that since a clean-up over recent years more than 400 dolphins and porpoises and 50 whales had been sighted in the river.

But scientists warn that Thames tippers are putting river life in danger by chucking in rubbish including furniture, fridges, tyres, guns, motorbikes, supermarket trolleys and, of particular concern, plastic.

Thames tippers are also warned that they face a fine of up to £50,000 in a magistrates' court if caught being a river litter lout.

The Port of London Author-



■ CLEAN APPEAL: London Assembly members want to stop 'Thames tipping'.

Londoners to meet Oswald, Disney rabbit

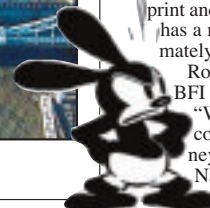
LONDON'S British Film Institute National Archive and Walt Disney Animation Studios have announced the rediscovery of a rare, long-lost Walt Disney animated film *Sleigh Bells* (1928), featuring the first-ever Disney character, Oswald the Lucky Rabbit, a long-eared precursor to Mickey Mouse.

The world premiere of the new restoration of the film by Walt Disney Animation Studios will take place at BFI Southbank on December 12 as part of a programme *It's A Disney Christmas: Seasonal Shorts*, screening other festive Disney gems from the 1930s to the present day.

Oswald the Lucky Rabbit, pictured below, was invented by Walt Disney in 1927 and was loved for his mischievous and rebellious personality. A number of other films do survive but *Sleigh Bells* has been, until now, a lost film, unseen since its original release. The animation in the film was accomplished by Walt Disney and Ub Iwerks, both of whom went on to create the character of Mickey Mouse, following a contractual disagreement with Universal, for whom they had created the Oswald films.

The print of *Sleigh Bells* (1928) was preserved in the BFI National Archive. The exciting re-discovery was made by a researcher browsing the online catalogue of the BFI National Archive's holdings. Walt Disney Animation Studios have taken this unique surviving film print and created both a new preservation print and digital copies. The film has a running time of approximately six minutes.

Robin Baker, Head Curator, BFI National Archive, said: "What a joyful treat to discover a long-lost Walt Disney film in the BFI National Archive."



Boris endorses blueprint to create jobs and homes

BY LWN REPORTER
editorial@londonweeklynews.co.uk

A PLANNING framework that aims to deliver more than 25,500 new homes and create up to 65,000 jobs at Old Oak and Park Royal has been approved and adopted by the Mayor of London Boris Johnson.

Old Oak in West London is set to become a new home to a world-class High Speed 2 and Crossrail station by 2026, handling 250,000 passengers a day and acting as a super hub between London and the rest of the UK, Europe and the world.

The mayor believes this presents an opportunity to create tens of thousands of new homes and could provide almost 14 per cent of Greater London's employment

needs up to 2031, with early estimates suggesting the project could make a £7 billion annual contribution to the UK economy.

The Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation was launched by Mr Johnson in April and will drive the planning and regeneration of the site that straddles the London boroughs of Hammersmith and Fulham, Brent and Ealing.

Earlier this year, the mayor published a consultation document called an Opportunity Area Planning Framework, which sets out his long-term vision for the area. Following the conclusion of that consultation, Mr Johnson has now approved the document which sets the strategic planning direction for the area.

Sir Edward Lister, Deputy Mayor for Planning and Chairman of the Old Oak and Park Royal Develop-

ment Corporation, said: "London urgently needs new homes and commercial space to meet its ever growing population and there can be no doubt that the regeneration of Old Oak represents a real opportunity to meet those needs. This strategy will mean we can plan for the future of this vast site as we work to create a new, thriving and sustainable part of the capital, where people will love to live, work, play and visit."

The planning framework aims to:

- Create a new urban neighbourhood at Old Oak, supporting a minimum of 24,000 new homes with an additional 1,500 in non-industrial locations in Park Royal.
- Plan for the new High Speed 2/Crossrail and National Rail interchange to regenerate the area and contribute significantly to London's competitiveness.
- Support the creation of 55,000

new jobs at Old Oak and a further 10,000 at Park Royal.

- Protect and enhance Park Royal as a strategic industrial location.

- Ensure new development safeguards nearby amenity assets such as Wormwood Scrubs and the Grand Union Canal.

- Work with communities, residents and businesses to realise the strategy

The mayor has identified 38 opportunity areas across the capital. These are London's major source of brownfield land with significant capacity for new housing, commercial and other development linked to existing or potential improvements to public transport accessibility. By establishing opportunity areas, and working closely with London boroughs and partner agencies, the mayor will be best able to deliver significant social and economic regeneration.

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A simple £11 health test could have saved little Edward's life

BY GEOFF BAKER

geoff@londonweeklynews.co.uk

PREGNANT women across London are being warned they may unknowingly carry a bacterial infection that can kill their babies – and are urged to get a test from their doctor to stop “this needless loss of life”.

Around 25 per cent of pregnant women have the infection, which is killing one baby a week – but which is also preventable.

Now a London solicitor whose newborn son died after contracting the bacteria from her is spearheading a petition demanding that the NHS tests every pregnant woman for the infection, group B streptococcus (GBS). Around 20 to 30 per cent of healthy people carry GBS in their bowel as part of their normal flora. Provided the GBS stays there, it is symptomless and usually harmless to adults. But in women, the GBS also colonises the vagina and from there it can be passed to babies around labour.

In the UK, on average, one newborn baby a day develops a GBS infection, one baby a week dies from it, and one baby a fortnight survives the infection but is left with long-term disabilities, including cerebral palsy, brain damage, blindness, deafness and amputated limbs. It is the most common cause of severe bacterial infection in newborn babies, and of meningitis in babies under three months.

When Greenwich solicitor Fiona Paddon gave birth by emergency caesarian section to a baby boy in May last year, he had contracted GBS from her and was seriously ill. When she woke from the general anaesthetic, she was told that her only child, Edward, was fighting for his life in the special care baby unit. He died nine days later.

If she had been tested for the infection while pregnant, a positive result would have prompted simple antibiotic treatment which would have saved Edward's life.

“It's almost impossible to think that your baby will die, and to be told that I could have been tested, and then successfully treated, for the very thing that killed Edward is almost too much to bear,” she said. “If I'd been tested, I would have been given antibiotics in labour which almost always prevent tragedies like ours.”

Along with the national charity Group B Strep Support, Mrs Paddon has set up a petition asking the Government to introduce GBS testing on the NHS for all pregnant women. Many other countries test all pregnant women for GBS, using an £11 vaginal and rectal swab test which is rarely available through the NHS.

Since 2003, the UK has used risk factors to guess which pregnant women might be at risk of carrying the infection. However, Mrs Paddon says the risk factors are poor at predicting which babies will develop GBS, and the number of babies contracting the infection in the UK is rising.

“Had I been tested, our beautiful son would be here today,” she said. “For Edward's sake, and all babies like him, we can't afford to lose any more lives.”

Jane Plumb, chief executive of Group B Strep Support, said: “It's time to stop this needless waste of life. Not only is it a human tragedy, it's a huge drain on NHS resources. Too many babies who've contracted Group B Strep infection die or are left with conditions which



■ **LOVING PARENTS:** Fiona Paddon, her husband Scott and baby son Edward. PA Photo/thinkstockphotos

require long-term support far more expensive than an £11 test. Antenatal care is failing pregnant women and their families by putting them at the mercy of a pregnancy lottery.”

Professor Philip Steer, chair of the Group B Strep Support medical advisory panel and Emeritus professor of obstetrics at Imperial College, London, said that in most cases, the baby copes perfectly well with being colonised.

“But in about one in 200 cases, the GBS invades the baby and makes it sick, usually causing either pneumonia or meningitis,” he says.

In the UK, early-onset GBS disease (within the first six days and usually within the first 24 hours from birth) affects around 400 babies a year. About 10 per cent of these will die and another five per cent will survive with a disability.

In the USA, as in most other developed countries, routine screening and treatment has reduced early-onset GBS disease by over 80 per cent. In the UK, where screening isn't routine, the incidence of early-onset GBS disease hasn't fallen at all, and the current rate is now 50 per cent higher than in the USA.

“If screening was introduced into the UK, it could be expected to reduce the burden of disease in a similar way to that in the USA,” said Professor Steer.

“If a woman is tested for GBS at 35 to 37 weeks and is found to be a carrier, she can be given intravenous penicillin in labour. This will prevent 80-90 per cent of early onset GBS disease in the babies born to these women.”

To sign the petition, visit www.change.org/p/nhs-provide-tests-for-group-b-strep-to-prevent-any-more-avoidable-deaths-of-newborn-babies

Coronet loses survival fight

A FAMOUS former cinema in Elephant and Castle looks set to close.

The Coronet, which is now a music venue, can trace its history back to 1879 but will close its doors for the last time on January 5, 2017, it was reported this week.

The Government has decided – on the advice of Historic England – not to make the Coronet a listed building.

Richard Littman, director of the music venue, said it would be “really sad to go”, but with the Elephant and Castle changing, it had become clear that “the evolving character of the area is no longer right for a venue like ours”.

He added: “We're looking forward to welcoming back old friends and making new ones – if you've ever wanted to perform here then get in touch quick – the calendar is filling up fast. Rather than fighting against change, we want to focus on celebrating The Coronet's incredible history. What better way to do that than by making The Coronet's final year of operation its biggest and best?”

More than 4,500 people had signed a petition to save the venue, which now looks destined for demolition as part of the redevelopment of the Elephant and Castle Shopping Centre site.

Thefts spark Diwali alert

SOME £45million of jewellery and gold was stolen from Asian families in London in the year to April, Scotland Yard reported this week.

The number of offences – 1,324 – for the 2014-15 financial year was down by a quarter, compared to 2013-14.

But police said there was often a spike in thefts around Diwali – the five-day Hindu festival of light – which got under way this year on Wednesday this week.

A force spokesman advised people to think about storing jewellery in safes and avoid travelling alone.

The Metropolitan Police told the BBC that an annual rise in burglary and robbery as the nights draw in made Asian communities particularly vulnerable at a time when they would be travelling across the city to attend events.

All libraries get free wi-fi

EVERY library in London is set to have free wi-fi access by March next year as part of the Arts Council's Wi-Fi in Public Libraries in England fund.

This is designed to help to unlock further opportunities for libraries to extend their services, tackling digital exclusion, leading to growth in digital skills and enabling the development of new partnerships that will benefit local residents and citizens.



■ **HEALTH ADVICE:** Professor Philip Steer of Imperial College, London.

Arts venues urged to be dementia friendly

WEST End theatres, cinemas and museums are being urged to become “dementia-friendly” in a new appeal to help the one million people who will be living with the illness within the next 10 years.

The call for arts venues to consider people with dementia, their families and carers has come from the Alzheimer's Society with backing from leading

figures from the arts world, including Sir Peter Bazalgette, head of the Arts Council.

The call follows the launch of a new guide to help arts and cultural venues become more accessible for people who are living with dementia.

The launch of the guide coincided last week with a fundraising evening at Elf the Musical at The Dominion The-

atre, where money from all ticket sales was donated to Alzheimer's Society. The theatre is currently in the process of becoming dementia-friendly.

Nikki Crowther, Head of Community Engagement at Alzheimer's Society, said: “Everyone has the right to participate in the arts and, for people with dementia, we know that there are many benefits. It

can improve quality of life and well-being by stimulating emotions and creativity. I hope that many more arts venues will use our guide and join the movement towards a dementia friendly society.

“Something as simple as ensuring signage is clear and creating a quiet area can enable someone with dementia to feel comfortable and to enjoy the

creativity the art world brings.”

Some 50 theatres, galleries, museums, cinemas and arts centres across the country have already begun to make some of the adaptations suggested.

The guide can be downloaded from the website alzheimers.org.uk/arts and hard copies are available by calling 0300 303 5933 or by emailing orders@alzheimers.org.uk

Win a trip to Winter Wonderland

WITH only a few days to go until the gates at Hyde Park Winter Wonderland open, we have pulled together our top tips on how to make the most of your trip to what many are calling the UK's number one Christmas destination. With over 100 rides and attractions on site, Hyde Park Winter Wonderland has something for everyone. The main attractions include: Ski Zillertal Ice Rink, The Magical Ice Kingdom, Zippos Circus, Giant Observation Wheel and Bar Ice. Pre-booked attraction tickets guarantee fast-track entry into Winter Wonderland at peak times.

When to visit

HYDE Park Winter Wonderland is busiest during weekends and evenings, so be prepared to queue to get in and to get onto rides during these peak times. If you want to experience the event at a more leisurely pace, we recommend you visit on weekday mornings and afternoons and during the school holidays. Then you can have brunch at Winter Wonderland, browse the Christmas market at a gentle pace, practise your skating moves, visit the new circus area and try out the rides. The venue is open from November 20 to January 3 from 10am to 10pm. It is closed on Christmas Day. On November 20 only it opens at 5pm.

Buy tickets now

WINTER Wonderland is free to enter but certain attractions become fully-booked during peak periods. Buy tickets in advance online for the Ski Zillertal Ice Rink, The Magical Ice Kingdom, Zippos Circus, Giant Observation Wheel and Bar Ice. Pre-booked attraction tickets guarantee fast-track entry into Winter Wonderland at peak times.



Plan your travel

THE best way to get to Winter Wonderland is via public transport. There are many tube and mainline stations in close vicinity, including: Bond Street, Green Park, Knightsbridge, Marble Arch, Hyde Park Corner, Paddington and Victoria. Green Park station is best for step-free access. For up to date travel and ticket information check the website www.hydeparkwinterwonderland.com and our social media channels @WinterWonderLON and www.facebook.com/winterwonderlanduk



■ You could win a family ticket to enjoy Hyde Park Winter Wonderland.

Wrap up warm

IT can get pretty chilly in the winter months and since the event is open-air, we would recommend wearing a hat, scarf, gloves, sensible footwear and a warm coat.

This is especially important if you are visiting the Magical Ice Kingdom and Bar Ice, chilled to a frosty -8°C (17.6°F). If you are feeling cold, you are never far away from a hot chocolate or mulled wine.

Take the kids

THIS family-friendly attraction has rides galore to keep kids of all ages happy. There are gentle rides and attractions for children as young as two in Santa Land and a Traditional Funfair with carousels, a helter skelter and funhouses. Most of the site is buggy-friendly and there are baby-changing facilities at various disabled toilets across the site. The Ski Zillertal Ice Rink, Zippos Circus – The Perfect Gift and The Magical Ice Kingdom are popular with our younger visitors. The best time to visit with young children and buggies is weekday mornings and early afternoon. For teenagers and those who enjoy thrill-seeking rides, there is the Alpine Adventure area, which hosts some of the most exciting rides in Europe including: Hangover, Blizzard, Wilde Maus and XXL.

Meet Santa

SEE Father Christmas and his magical elves in his Santa Land grotto every day from 10am to 6pm – except Christmas Day. Meeting Santa is free and children receive a small gift. An official photographer will be taking souvenir shots that are available to buy on the day, but you can also take your own photos if you prefer.

Bring cash

RIDES and attractions are accessed by tokens which cost £1 each and are available at the token booths dotted around the site and cannot be bought in advance. Children's rides start at £2, while other rides start at £3. If you're looking for gifts, the Christmas market features more than 200 fairy lit wooden chalets in the Angels Christmas Market, selling everything from handicrafts to traditional Christmas decorations, accessories to culinary delights.

Food glorious food

FROM festive drinks to swanky sit-down meals, Hyde Park Winter Wonderland has a bevy of bars and eateries to

choose from. As well as Bavarian-style fodder, you can warm up on mulled wine and farmhouse foods around a huge fire pit, which comes alive at night with a 70s band, or take a spin on hearty fare like hog roast and fish and chips. They are on the menu at the Star Tavern and Village Square, which provide a cosy retreat from the cold. Alternatively, snuggle up to a real log fire while tucking into festive refreshments at The Artic Lodge and The House of St Nicholas.

Magic of ice

THE hugely successful sub-zero experience – The Magical Ice Kingdom will return and host even more fantastical snow and ice sculptures.

This year children and adults are invited to walk through the fairy forest to discover a frozen lake and the ice queen, explore the ice palace, sit on the thrones and slide down the castle slide. Filled to the brim with awe-inspiring snow and ice sculptures including magical princesses, frozen animals and ogres the Magical Ice Kingdom is the biggest ice and snow sculpture experience of its kind in the UK. Tickets cost from £7 for adults and £5 for children.

Circus fun

MAKE the most of your day and book in a show. Circus Town will host the Mega Dome with two different shows performing throughout the day: Zippos Circus – The Perfect Gift and Cirque Berserk – Adrenaline. Zippos Circus – The Perfect Gift is ideal for families with younger children starring jugglers, the wheel of death, jaw-dropping acrobats, aerialists on a cloud swing and silks and The Ringmaster. For the evening crowd we have Cirque Berserk – Adrenaline starring the world's most dangerous circus act, the legendary Globe of Terror with, for the first time in the UK, five motorbikes riding at high speed in a steel globe who will be joined by a troupe of over thirty jugglers, acrobats, aerialists, dancers, musicians and death-defying stunt men in London's most awesome Thrill Circus.

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Here's how to enter our competition

LONDON'S spectacular Christmas destination, Hyde Park Winter Wonderland, returns from November 20 for six weeks of winter cheer.

With free admission there will be even more entertainment than before. A huge hit with the royals and the celebrity crowd, Cara Delevingne, Kate Moss, One Direction, Elle Macpherson, Damien Lewis and Penelope Cruz have all been spotted enjoying the festive atmosphere.

The *London Weekly News* has secured a family ticket to the event, where you can experience the ultimate Christmas day out. The prize includes tickets to the spectacular Magical Ice Kingdom – a breathtaking snow and ice experience, a skate around the Ski Zillertal Ice Rink, a ride on the iconic Giant Observation Wheel finished off with a spectacular show from Zippos Circus in the Mega Dome. For more information on the

attraction, visit the website www.hydeparkwinterwonderland.com

■ For your chance to win a pair of tickets simply send an email with WINTER WONDERLAND COMPETITION as the subject line, along with your name, age and address to: competitions@londonweeklynews.co.uk to reach us by November 16 2016

Terms and conditions

- Family tickets are for two adults and two children
- Tickets must be used between November 20, 2015 and January 3, 2016 (closed on Christmas Day)
- Tickets cannot be exchanged
- Tickets are subject to availability
- Session times must be stipulated for ice skating and Zippos Circus.

FOR RESIDENTS AND VISITORS

London



WEEKLY News

ISSUE 50

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Thursday, November 12th 2015

Charles is impatient to change the world, not take the throne

BY GEOFF BAKER

geoff@londonweeklynews.co.uk

WHEN, at the age of nine, he was made the Prince of Wales by his mother The Queen, Prince Charles might not have easily imagined that he

would celebrate his 67th birthday sharing sausages with 500 Australians at a barbecue on a beach in Perth.

But that's where he will find himself on Thursday, at a party in pine gardens at a beachside civic centre; surrounded by hand-picked guests from the emergency services, looking out over the Indian Ocean and dining on what the organisers promise

TURN TO PAGE 2



■ **LONDON REMEMBERS:** Thousands of proud Londoners paid their respects on Sunday to those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in global conflicts. The Queen, with Prince Philip, Princess Anne, Prince Andrew, the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and Prince Harry, led tributes at the Cenotaph while many other Londoners stood in silence at services across the capital. **REPORT, PICTURES – Pages 6, 7, 8 & 9**

Picture: Richard Austin

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ROYAL LONDON

Throne can wait, environment matters most to Charles

Prince knows that campaigning must stop when he's king

FROM PAGE 13

will be "the very best of West Australian produce".

It's not really what one has in mind when you're told as a child that you must look forward to being king. But then at the time he probably did not imagine either that by the time he becomes king he will be the oldest man ever to have done so – the current holder of that record is William IV, who was aged 64 when he was crowned in 1830.

As recent years have passed by, each failing to bring him the crown, it's barely surprising that commentators have frequently made the conjecture that Charles, the king-in-waiting, is impatient and frustrated by the long wait.

But the actual truth is that it is quite probably the last thing he wants, nor the planet needs.

For besides losing his beloved mother, which no son wants, the moment that he becomes King Charles III he is finished as the environment's most influential voice.

And that's when his real frustration will start, because by becoming king, Charles will lose his power.

Clearly, as head of State, he will be appointed with all manner of responsibilities and authority, but he will lose the power to get things done. Because, as sovereign, Charles will have to bite his lip, stop writing "black spider" letters and intervening for the greater good as he does now.

As monarch, he will be restricted by the same rules and traditions which prevent The Queen from "speaking out" now. The position dictates that the sovereign cannot be a campaigner, favouring one way over another, urging this or that course of action and Charles the fervent, passionate activist will be gagged.

Which possibly explains why Charles is becoming increasingly active now. Although nobody expects Her Majesty, inheriting the strong genes of the late Queen Mother, to leave the throne or this mortal coil for another decade, time is passing and as it

runs out for Charles the campaigner he is becoming more vocal, especially on the matter of the environment.

An analysis of important speeches that Prince Charles has made this year show that he is clearly speaking out on his key passion for the environment while he still can.

In May, he lectured at the London Business School and put right any eco-doubters by warning of "catastrophe" and calling them "short-sighted", words you would never hear The Queen use.

"In 50 years' time, our children and grandchildren will be facing a radically different world. The warning signs are already here for all to see," he said.

"Whilst we live in a time of great wealth and opportunity for many, it is also a time dogged by increasing turbulence and a rather terrifying combination of risks – persistent poverty and a population of seven billion that is still rising unsustainably fast; the depletion and over-consumption of finite natural resources; and



■ GLOBAL VISION: Charles is a passionate environmentalist.

we will need to see profound changes.

"That is why 2015 is just the start of a longer and deeper process, and why 2016 will see the start of the really hard work."

He added: "Yet – however slowly – things are changing. I am old enough to remember The Guardian newspaper thinking it was hilarious when I managed to encourage the installation of one of the country's first bottle banks, which they described as a 'strange engine', at Buckingham Palace 25 years ago."

Last month, at a meeting on climate change at Lancaster House, Prince Charles reiterated his plea again, ahead of this month's United Nations climate change conference – at which he, significantly, will be a keynote speaker.

He said: "The policy and governance drive to reduce deforestation can come only from forest countries, with the benefits being of almost incalculable value, both locally and globally. As forest nations increasingly show the way through ambitious commitments, these must be mirrored by greater long term support from donor countries and agencies."

"Companies really will need to accelerate their admirable efforts to re-engineer supply chains in support of smallholders, to adopt sustainable agricultural practices and, of course, to meet their zero deforestation pledges if we are to have any conceivable chance of keeping to a two degree world."

"We can't possibly allow it to become four degrees as climate scientists have warned, that's seven degrees Fahrenheit, a big increase which will be impossible, I think, to adapt to. And all of this will have to be complemented by those organisations working with local communities."

"Everything needs to be brought together into one coherent narrative, a comprehensive programme that includes governments, the private sector and civil society. My only hope is that today's meeting is a contribution to this essential process."

"I can only conclude, ladies and gentlemen, by praying that you will have a fruitful and stimulating meeting – billions of people and, indeed, what is left of the rest of a rapidly diminishing creation, depends upon whether this time, real, concerted action – and not just words, can be taken."

It is near impossible to imagine The Queen lecturing Ministers, businessmen, students and farmers on the need for them to take action on the environment, let alone telling them that she "prays" that they do.

And when he is king, the restrictions of office will mean that Charles is not allowed to either – which means that a great voice for global good will be lost.

Which is why that, for the sake of the planet and the fear of losing their most influential campaigner, environmentalists are hoping that Charles has at least another 10 years of non-kingship ahead of him yet.

the very real and accumulating risk of catastrophic climate change.

"I know only too well that there are siren voices on all sides telling us that this is all total rubbish, dreamt up by half-baked environmentalists bent on destroying capitalism as we know it, but it must surely be the case that, in the future, successful organizations will actually be those which, according to best risk-management practice, have redefined their business models to try and adapt to this very different world."

"I know that for many finance professionals, 'sustainability' is a term that immediately suggests the kinds of measures that frustrate robust decision-making and the maximization of profits. Far too often sustainability is seen as a "nice-to-have", with no requirement for a seat at the boardroom table. This really is, I would have thought, a very short-sighted and outdated view!"

In July, at the Royal Agricultural University in Cirencester, he addressed young farmers on the same theme.

"You, ladies and gentlemen, will very soon be acting as custodians, or stewards, of a precious natural asset on which all of humanity depends and taking decisions in your daily lives that will have long-term consequences," he said.

"Now I know only too well that you will be faced by endless financial and economic pressures pulling you in the opposite direction, but if I could

just ask one thing of you, it would be that amidst all the excitement of starting your new jobs you make time to look around you and try to understand the bigger picture."

"What has happened in the past to shape the land the way it is? Are you looking at a healthy, diverse and resilient ecosystem? And is the balance right between short-term production and long-term health and sustainability?"

"I know those may not be the most obvious things to ask as you start to find your way around, but they might well be among the most important, at the end of the day."

In July again, speaking at the University of Cambridge, Charles pressed his sustainability points again, and in doing so took a small swipe at critics who have mocked his years of campaigning.

"The need to join up disparate efforts on finance, sustainable development, climate change and a whole range of related challenges has been apparent for decades. But the irresistible power of 'business as usual' has so far defeated every attempt to 'rewire' our economic system in ways that will deliver what we so urgently need," he said.

"Yet if we are to limit climate change, conserve resources and keep ecosystems functioning, while at the same time improving the health and wellbeing of billions of people – including the several billion who are projected to be added to our population later this century – then

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Creating Amazing Memories

Queen's wardrobe to go on show in 90th birthday year

ROYAL LONDON

Clothes that fashioned a global image

BY GEOFF BAKER

geoff@londonweeklynews.co.uk

THERE is only one photograph known to be in existence of The Queen wearing flared denims. It was taken in a personal moment on a beach in the early 1970s and, in the parlance of the time, Her Majesty still looks groovy.

The holiday snap captures The Queen posing happily on an off-duty day during a tour of the Western Isles on her beloved ship Britannia.

When the photograph surfaced in 2008 *The Daily Telegraph's* fashion director Hilary Alexander wrote: "Out of the millions of images that have been taken of The Queen in more than eight decades, this must surely be one of the happiest and most natural."

Hilary added: "True, there are no hippie beads, platform wedgies or a flower-power kaftan. As always, the Queen does it, as she always has, her way; accessorising her, then, up-to-the-minute flares with classic white plim-

solts, an Oriental-printed jacket and a sunhat, tied with what looks like one of her signature Hermès silk squares."

Sadly, the photograph is not for public view as it was bought for a substantial sum at an auction by a private collector. But no matter, as much of the rest of the decades of The Queen's fabulous wardrobe is to go on display next year in exhibitions to mark Her Majesty's 90th birthday.

Three special exhibitions, *Fashioning a Reign: 90 Years of Style from The Queen's Wardrobe*, will be staged across each of The Queen's official residences during 2016.

Constituting the largest display of The Queen's dress ever mounted, they will open at the Palace of Holyroodhouse in Edinburgh for Her Majesty's birthday on April 21, at the summer opening of the State Rooms at Buckingham Palace in August and at Windsor Castle in September.

"Through the three separate but closely linked exhibitions, *Fashioning a Reign* will chart significant events in The Queen's life and the nation's history

through an unprecedented collection of dress, jewellery and accessories designed for these occasions, from childhood to the present day," says a spokesman for The Royal Collection Trust.

"The Queen's support of British couture and millinery will be highlighted through important pieces created for a world stage by renowned designers, including Sir Norman Hartnell, Sir Hardy Amies and Ian Thomas.

"More than 150 outfits will be shown throughout the three residences, and the content of each exhibition has been selected to have particular association with the location."

At Buckingham Palace, the setting for many memorable State and family occasions during The Queen's life and reign, the exhibition will present the fashions of ten decades, from the 1920s to the 2010s.

"It will show the unique requirements of royal couture, from ceremonial and military attire to ensembles worn at family celebrations, such as weddings and christenings. Early childhood, The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh's wedding, the Coronation, and wardrobes created for royal tours and State Visits will all be represented," said the spokesman.

"Exploring the same themes on a smaller scale, at the Palace of Holyroodhouse the use of tartan in royal dress will be highlighted, while at Windsor Castle magnificent evening gowns and elegant day ensembles worn at official events will be contrasted with fancy-dress costumes worn by the young Princess Elizabeth

for wartime family pantomimes at the Castle."

The exhibition is bound to be one of London's big draws of the summer, not only for visitors but for fashion designers too, as it celebrates the best part of a century of glamour and style from one of the world's first ladies of fashion.

"Any exhibition of Her Majesty's clothes is always an eye-opener as you notice the quality and richness of colour of the heavy satins, the exquisite beading and, somewhat amazingly, how very tiny her waist was in the earlier years of her reign," says designer Pauline Weston Thomas, owner of the fashion blog *fashion-era.com*.

"The Queen's wardrobe represents a working wardrobe designed

for maximum visibility. For half a century her clothes have been used as an expression of diplomatic gesture; if she is in Japan there must be a recognition of the emblematic cherry blossom, or if in Canada there must be acknowledgement of maple leaves.

"Emblematic flora and fauna of a host country or special guest wherever she may be, is delicately hinted at somewhere in the gown, the fabric print or trimmings.

"Her Majesty knows her flag colours well too. She shows the greatest diplomatic touches in often honouring other countries by wearing those same flag colours in her clothes. Her wardrobe is invariably dictated by such diplomatic gestures to other countries.

This has resulted in the making of some truly fabulous strongly coloured gowns over the years.

"There is also a need for neutral toned gowns as they are a perfect foil for gaudy sashes and other regalia. These satin dresses left and embroidered with gold, diamanté and pearls by Norman Hartnell, are good foils for strongly clashing garter sashes and her evening and state gowns have often been works of art, with sumptuous embroidery and fine embellishments.

"Many of The Queen's dresses have been simply stunning, adding not celebrity bling, but just a touch of tastefully acceptable glamour for a woman who is not an actress, yet finds herself constantly in the public eye."

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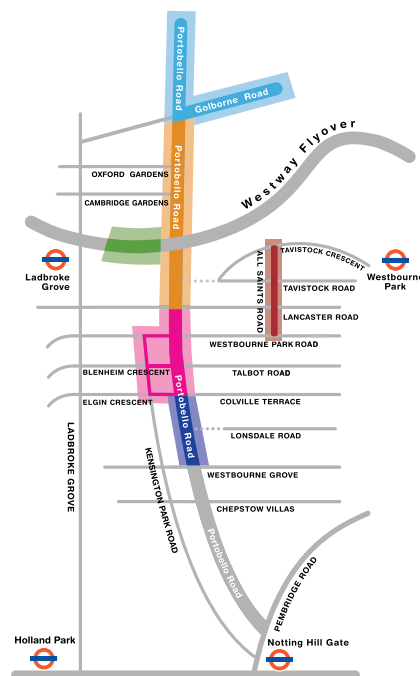
CHRISTMAS SHOPPING PASSPORT

Collect stickers when you spend money at the 12 market stalls and 11 local shops listed here.

Entries submitted by 4pm on Friday 4 December will be eligible for an extra chance to win one of five **£20 shopping vouchers** on Small Business Saturday UK, **5 December 2015** at a prize draw at 11am in Tavistock Square W11.

All entries submitted by 5pm 24 December will be eligible to win one of **5 main prize packages** (worth at least £100 each) donated by the participating businesses. Main prize winners will be notified by email on 9 January 2015.

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Jamon Jamon

paella stall

The Spice Shop

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London International Silver Co

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London Tree House toy shop

146 Portobello Road W11 2DZ

La Cave a Fromage

148-150 Portobello Road W11 2DZ

Portobello Cutlery

antiques stall (Saturday)

Simone Salandini

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Cameras London

antiques stall (most days)

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Book & Kitchen

31 All Saints Road W11 1HE

Use the map above to find your favourite participating shops and traders. The colour of each business corresponds to the colour on the map. Don't forget to get a sticker for every £5 you spend (limited to 2 stickers per business).

For full details please see www.rbkc.gov.uk



WHERE TO SEE A ROYAL THIS WEEK

FULL details of future and recent events in the ever-busy diaries of the many members of The Royal Family are available from the official website www.royal.gov.uk but here's the London schedule for the week ahead for Where To See A Royal.



ROYAL DUTY: The Duke of Edinburgh

November 10

■ **The Duke of Edinburgh**, as Honorary Fellow, the Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining, will open the Institute's new premises at 297 Euston Road.

■ **The Duke of Edinburgh**, as Grand Master, Order of the British Empire, will attend Evensong for members of the Order, at St. Paul's Cathedral.

■ **The Princess Royal**, as President, World Horse Welfare, will attend the Annual Conference at the Royal Geographical Society, Kensington Gore.

■ **The Duke of Gloucester** will attend a reception for Brazilian Health Ministers at Tower Bridge.

■ **The Princess Royal**, as Patron, Opportunity International United Kingdom, will hold a dinner at Buckingham Palace.

November 11

■ **The Duke of Edinburgh**, as Colonel, Grenadier Guards, will chair the Regimental Council Meeting at Buckingham Palace.

■ **The Earl of Wessex**, as Trustee, The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award

Foundation, will hold a World Fellowship lunch at Buckingham Palace.

■ **The Princess Royal**, as Renter Warden, the Fishmongers' Company, will attend a Livery Dinner at the Fishmongers' Hall, London Bridge.

■ **The Duke of Gloucester**, as Commodore, Royal Ulster Yacht Club, will attend a lunch at the Royal Thames Yacht Club, Knightsbridge.

■ **The Duke of Gloucester**, as Patron, Heritage of London Trust, will attend a dinner at Spencer House, St James's Place.

■ **The Duchess of Gloucester**, as Royal Patron, The Progressive Supranuclear Palsy Association, will attend a reception at the Institute of Neurology, University College London.

■ **The Duke of Kent**, as Patron, will attend the Restore concert at the 20th Century Theatre, Westbourne Grove.

November 12

■ **The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh** will give a reception for winners of the 2015 Civil Service Awards at Buckingham Palace.

■ **The Duke of Edinburgh**, as

Freeman and Liveryman, the Worshipful Company of Fishmongers, will attend a lunch at Fishmongers' Hall, London Bridge.

■ **The Princess Royal**, as Royal Patron, WISE, will attend an awards ceremony, Grange St. Paul's Hotel, Godliman Street.

■ **The Princess Royal**, as Renter Warden, the Fishmongers' Company, will attend a Committee of Wards Meeting, a General Court Meeting and lunch at the Fishmongers' Hall, London Bridge.

■ **The Princess Royal**, as Patron, Royal National Children's Foundation, will attend the Annual Conference at Church House, Deans Yard.

November 16

■ **Princess Alexandra** will attend a dinner in honour of Saint Margaret of Scotland given by the Hungarian Ambassador at the Caledonian Club, Halkin Street.

November 17

■ **The Duke of Edinburgh** will open a conference of the Alliance of Religions and Conservation at Lambeth Palace.

■ **The Duke of Gloucester**, as Colonel in Chief, Royal Army Medical Corps, will attend a Reception at Barber-Surgeons' Hall, Monkwell Square.

■ **Princess Alexandra**, as President, Royal Humane Society, will attend the Stanhope Gold Medal lunch at Fishmongers' Hall, London Bridge.

SHOWBIZ SPECIAL

Campaigning superstar deserves Westminster role

IT'S a little bit funny that you have to go to either Norwich or to that not-exactly-central address of London HA6 to find a plaque commemorating the greatness of Sir Elton John.

One might have thought that by now there would be some sort of statue of him in one of the parks, or at the very least in Denmark Street, where Britain's most successful solo artist began as a tea boy for the music publishers Mills Music and where many a website wrongly claims that he wrote *Your Song* on the roof.

But no, if you want to discover how Britain currently best salutes a hero you must trek up to the not-entirely-legendary Orford Cellar in Red Lion Street, Norwich, where he once performed in the early 1960s, or else catch the Metropolitan line out to Northwood Hills, where in its Namaste Lounge the local pub of the same name bears a plaque commemorating the spot where 15-year-old Reg Dwight played in 1962.

Visitors to London may think it somewhat odd that the capital is so disdainful about celebrating its actual greats like this. They may, for instance, point out that as there is a blue plaque in Putney to Fred Russell, the father of modern ventriloquism that no schoolboy has ever heard of, and another in Balham to the no-less-unknown music hall comedian Gus Elen, that there might well be one marking Elton too.

English Heritage, which is in charge of selecting all of the 12 blue plaques it erects in London every year, will of course argue that it's in their rules that such a plaque can only be awarded to a person who has been 20 years dead. Some of us believe that as the blue plaques mark their 150th anniversary of being next year, it is perhaps about time that they changed their archaic rules and dropped the deceased condition, but there's of course scant chance of any conservationists doing that.

So at the risk of dying of exhaustion from arguing that with the staunch traditionalists of English Heritage, let's drop that idea and look at the other obvious option facing the authorities about what to do about Elton – a seat in the House of Lords.

No Government has put a musician in the Lords for the best part of 20 years since Lord Lloyd-Webber was given a peerage. One might ask why not? One might wonder, given recent governments' liking for making lords of a bra-maker, a night club owner and a football club boss, let alone a journalist, that choosing someone who could authoritatively represent an industry that contributes £3.5 billion to the economy, employs 101,000 people and which dominates national and international culture might be a sound idea.

It is no big secret in the music business that one particular British star of it is gagging to be made a peer; he's desperate to become a Lord and if he got it he'd be on his feet in the Second Chamber all day. It's not Elton. But if pop peers are to be made,

Why Mr Cameron must bow to peer pressure and put Elton in the House of Lords

Geoff Baker makes the case for elevating tireless Aids crusader

and it is a suggestion that is not unfamiliar to the mandarins of Whitehall, then it should be Elton, and for a second good reason which is close to David Cameron's thinking, HIV and AIDS.

Whilst some of his party still live in a cave in the Dark Ages about it, the Prime Minister has tried to lead new thinking on HIV. In 2012 he joined the World Aids Day campaign and urged action and more attention to the illness.

"First and foremost, World Aids Day has got to be a spur to take action, as there are still far too many people who aren't educated about HIV and AIDS and who don't get tested," he said.

"People need to know that, diagnosed early, the outlook for most people with HIV in the UK today is a good one, thanks to the availability of effective treatment and the excellent care provided by the NHS. And above all, people need to know that it's never been quicker or simpler to get tested."

Earlier this year, Mr Cameron was asked about support for PrEP, the drug that can be taken before sex to reduce the risk of getting HIV, and whether it should be made available on the NHS.

He said: "I think it's fantastic that over the course of the last 30 years, AIDS has gone from being a very serious and fatal disease to one that can be treated – and is now on the cusp of being one that can be pre-

vented. Too many people have lost loved ones and seen friends and families suffer from AIDS, so it's right that we look very carefully at PrEP. However, decisions on individual drug availability are made by the independent National Institute for Health and Care Excellence and not politicians – so it'd be inappropriate of me to prejudge their decision."

Of course it would not be inappropriate at all, he's the Prime Minister, nothing that affects the health of the nation is inappropriate for the nation's leader. But his dodging the issue highlights the need for a powerful voice in Westminster on HIV and Aids, an experienced voice that would generate important publicity for the issues involved.

HIV needs a voice in the Lords – and there is nobody more qualified than the creator of the Elton John AIDS Foundation, which has to date raised more than £150 million to fund programmes for its prevention.

HIV needs the voice because, as Elton says, there is still much to be done. There are more than 100,000 people in the UK living with HIV. In 2013 there were 530 HIV-related deaths and 6,800 new infections.

The AIDS charity Avert says: "Evidence suggests that levels of HIV knowledge among the public have declined, largely due to a lack of public awareness campaigns and no HIV education in schools."

No wonder then, that as Elton

the music man gives his first performance on The Royal Variety Performance this week, with his other hat on he says "but we have so much work left to do".

In an interview with *Billboard* last month, he spelled it out.

"When it first appeared in the 1980s, AIDS was seen as a 'gay disease'. Tens of thousands of gay men were dying and it seemed like no one cared. People who contracted HIV/AIDS were shunned by their own families, turned away from medical providers and treated like they weren't even human."

"Dozens and dozens of my close friends and many colleagues in the music industry became HIV positive. They suffered and died, and it was the most horrible feeling, losing loved ones."

"It might be hard to believe in 2015, but not long ago, AIDS was the biggest public health crisis in the world. By 1992, AIDS was the number one cause of death for men aged 25 to 44 in the United States. Tens of millions of people died around the world."

"But today, thanks entirely to the hard work of activists, HIV/AIDS is no longer a death sentence. Instead, it is a manageable chronic illness. We know how to prevent it. We know how to treat it. And some day, we may learn how to cure it."

"In the meantime, in very

many countries, new infections have stabilised. Millions of people have access to life-saving treatments. And health experts believe we can create an AIDS-free generation and, one day, an AIDS-free world."

"But we have so much work left to do. There are too many people who lack access to critical treatment and prevention programmes. There is still a dangerous lack of compassion for those living with HIV and those at risk of contracting it. As a result, there is a lack of social services and sexual health education, especially in minority, rural and gay communities."

"But despite all these challenges, I truly believe that we have the power to achieve an AIDS-free generation, because I've seen with my own eyes the incredible progress we've made during the past three decades. I never thought we'd get this far, this close to ending the epidemic. And my greatest hope is to live to see the day when we win the fight once and for all."

"I look back over the past three decades, and I vividly recall the pain, the suffering and the loss. It is unimaginable. It is unforgettable. But I also feel more hope and confidence and excitement than ever before, because we all have the power to make a difference – each and every one of us."

"We've seen it time and again. All that's required is for enough people to stand up, join hands and fight for what they believe in."

Good, reasoned, powerful stuff, and the sort of stuff that we should be reading in Hansard.

Meanwhile, the scallywags among us are also hoping that Elton will stand up and fight for what he also believes in on the comparatively-trivial matter of some of the other guests at this week's Royal Variety Performance.

As the plaques in Norwich and Northwood Hills commemorate, the Great Londoner who has sold more than 300 million records, including 33 million of his Princess Diana tribute *Candle In The Wind* 1997, did not do so by getting the lucky break of winning the phone votes of viewers of a television 'talent' show.

Instead, he put in the work, slogging around pubs and small clubs in his teens and, in a theatre not so far from the Albert Hall where the Royal Variety bash will be held, was once pelted with spark plugs, nuts and bolts by bikers who had come to hear Little Richard and who demonstrably were not interested in the support act of the spectacled piano player's band.

It is not clear whether Jules O'Dwyer and Matisse have ever been pelted with spark plugs but perhaps Elton may lob a few from the wings on Friday as the Royal Variety Performance goes to the dogs for the second time in three years and follows 2012's inclusion of Ashleigh and Pudsey, some sort of canine *Come Dancing*, with another animal act.

Since 2007, the Royal Variety Performance has featured an act selected by the phone vote of viewers of *Britain's Got Talent*. Ah, Elton's favourite; not.

Elton, who admirably made a case for young musicians putting in the graft – like Ed Sheeran did – by denouncing reality shows for "killing talent", saying that appearing on *The X Factor* was going on "a road to ruin" and adding that he would rather have part of his anatomy "bitten off by an Alsatian than watch *The X Factor*", has also been none too complimentary about *Britain's Got Talent*, describing it in terms that family newspapers cannot quote.

It will be compulsive for those with tickets to watch in case Elton repeats his view on the important contribution of performing dogs to the best of British entertainment when he headlines over One Direction, Kylie Minogue, Jeff Lynne's ELO, Ricky Martin, Beverley Knight, Brandon Flowers and The Corrs at the royal show.

And as this year's Royal Variety Performance will be in the presence of Prince Harry, it will also be interesting to see whether Elton decides to play the song that he gave to the memory of that other great HIV campaigner, Harry's mother.

■ **The Royal Variety Performance**, The Royal Albert Hall, Friday



LONDON WIDE

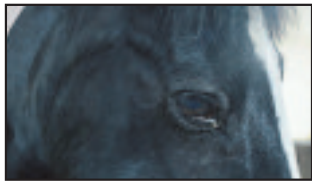
LWN

Police count cost of protecting capital

SIX police horses were injured by angry protestors during the Million Mask March in London last week – including one which was hit in the eye with a stick and another which was glassed in the leg.

Four police officers were also injured by the marchers, of whom 50 were arrested after 2,000 officers contained the crowd to keep them from the gates of Buckingham Palace and Downing Street.

The most-seriously injured officer



INJURED ON DUTY: Police horses Embassy, top, and Illustrious.

suffered a fractured wrist when he was thrown from his horse, Embassy, after the mob attacked them with fireworks outside the Palace.

Embassy sustained injuries to his

side, his rear fetlock and his front leg.

A Met spokesman said: "Other horses were hurt too. Quartz sustained an injury, believed to be caused by glass, to his hind leg, Qwerty sustained an injury to his hind quarters, Heather had a cut to her fetlock on her hind leg, Illustrious was injured in the eye, believed caused by a stick, and Quixote suffered injuries to his front legs."

The officers were praised by their Chief, Met Commissioner Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, who said: "This was a really busy week, even by the standards of the Met, and my officers have worked very hard in the face of some incredibly challenging and even violent circumstances."

"Last Saturday night, we mobilised 300 officers from across London to deal with an unlicensed music event in Lambeth – the responding officers were faced with immediate hostility and violence. I'd like to thank the local residents who came out to support my officers."

"Throughout the week we have policed a number of peaceful protests, something we have a proud tradition of doing, many of which pass by without notice."

"And of course on Thursday night, my officers were well and truly in the front line. Fortunately, the four injured officers are doing OK."

"Injured officers, injured horses and 50 arrests are not peaceful protest. The event tied up nearly 2,000 officers – who in the main came from our boroughs. I'm really proud of everything my officers have done this week."



Win show tickets

THE *London Weekly News* has teamed up with The Ideal Home Show at Christmas and is giving away five sets of tickets to the biggest Christmas exhibition in the UK.

The Ideal Home Show at Christmas – which takes place at Olympia in London – is sponsored by Gocompare.com and will be open from November 25 to 29 to provide everything you could possibly need in the run-up to the festive season, from over 600 exhibitors showcasing top Christmas shopping inspiration, a plethora of celebrity appearances and a Christmas bandstand hosting live entertainment.

The event will be the first Ideal Home Show at Christmas to be hosted at Olympia following its return earlier in 2015. The famous venue will be transformed into a winter wonderland featuring exhibitors across seven sectors, as well as a host of festive favourite celebrities including Gino D'Acampo, Laurence Llewelyn-Bowen, Olly Smith and Katie Piper, who will be making her Christmas show debut. The experts will be on hand at the show offering their

own festive hints and tips to make your Christmas ideal. Other highlights include a Christmas bandstand full of live entertainment for visitors to enjoy as they shop, a wide range of expert talks and advice, a food and drink theatre featuring top tips from celebrity chefs, and even a champagne bar.

To win tickets to the show email competitions@londonweeklynews.co.uk with IDEAL HOME XMAS COMP as the subject heading along with your name, age, and phone number. Closing date for entries will be midnight on November 20, 2015. Terms and conditions apply. See below. To buy tickets to the event visit idealhomeshowchristmas.co.uk

Term and conditions

- Only one entry per person
- Each prize consists of two tickets for The Ideal Home Show at Christmas at Olympia from November 25 to 29.
- There is no cash alternative to the prize stated, and the prizes are non-transferable.
- Prize consists only of the elements expressly detailed above; no other elements or expenses such as travel, car parking, meals, beverages or spending money are included. All such expenses are the sole responsibility of the winner plus guest.

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disruption.



UNDER THE WESTWAY

Extending the offer of engagement

Angela McConville, Chief Executive of Westway Trust, offers a hand of collaboration with Westway 23...

A FEW weeks ago I was approached by Westway 23 to attend a meeting with a number of people from the group to discuss how the Trust's plans might benefit their community members.

For those who don't know what Westway 23 is, it is a grass roots organisation formed of local residents, organisations, traders and artists with an interest in the 23 acres of land held under the Westway.

As with all the invitations for conversations with groups in the community, we were pleased to

confirm our attendance and engage in open dialogue with a passionate and committed group that represents a diverse spread of views.

The meeting was on the understanding that it would be with members of the group about building trust, exploring ideas and providing a better understanding of how the Trust operates – the start of a relationship that we could commit to over the long term. Given the spread of creativity and energy displayed within the group, we were genuinely interested in what opportunities the conversation might bring about.

However, last week we took the decision not to attend the meeting. The decision was taken with a heavy heart.

What started as a proposed discrete group has become a rallying call for an open meeting, and we have been advised that the audi-

ence is likely to be over 200 people with no clear objectives of what we can achieve.

It is almost impossible to hold 200 conversations at once. Plus, because of the way it's been publicised we cannot guarantee that everyone will be from the local area and some may not have good intentions.

Postings on Facebook and social media promoting the meeting to encourage attendance talk about joining a 'resistance' and 'fight-back' against 'lives lost' and makes a deeply offensive suggestion that links the Trust with 'ethnic cleansing'. Such inflammatory language gives me little assurance that all those attending will have good intentions.

Without any assurance that those attending want constructive dialogue, it makes it very difficult for me to believe either party will get

anything meaningful from the meeting.

Having spoken at length on Friday with our new Chairman, and my fellow Directors here at Westway Trust, we decided that we do not feel comfortable proceeding with the meeting, as currently proposed.

We saw this meeting as a valuable opportunity to advance positive dialogue and cooperation with Westway 23. However, we fear the environment will not be conducive to achieving this.

Having said all that, it is really positive that people are engaged and interested and we want to harness that. As with the 70 or so other groups we work with regularly, working with a small group of leaders has proven to be the most productive way to progress things.

We have suggested to Westway

23 to go ahead and hold their proposed meeting at the Tabernacle on Wednesday to form their views and elect a small group that can represent the formed majority view (or a small number of alternative propositions) to work with us into the future.

We can then meet with this group the following week to formalise how we can work together.

After that, we would be open to a joint public meeting that would allow Westway Trust and Westway 23 to jointly present proposals.

We remain fully committed to working collaboratively and positively Westway 23, we just believe the order of events might be revised.

I hope that we can find an approach in the next couple of weeks that will provide the best possible environment in which we can make genuine progress.

THE paper serving the **HEART** of London

WINE & DINE

The food and
drink page for
West London

THERE is little doubt that restaurateur Russell Norman is in the right career.

A former head of drama at a girls' school, for years he worked at restaurants on the weekend, before taking the leap in the late nineties, eventually going on to set up the popular mini chain of Venetian-inspired Polpo eateries.

"I gave myself a talking to one day and realised I was kidding myself – if I enjoyed restaurants so much at the weekends, why wasn't that my full-time job?" explains the cook, who was born in London and lives with his wife and three children in the city.

"It's different from how I imagined it. When you work for yourself, your attitude to work changes completely. We currently employ nearly 300 people and I feel a daily responsibility, not just for those 300 people but for their dependants, for their husbands and wives and children... but I absolutely enjoy it. I wouldn't do it if I didn't."

Nearly 20 years on from resigning as a teacher, Norman is in his element, with a string of restaurants – including the New York-style Spuntino – and a new cookbook to his name.

Happy to chew the fat about food all day, he regularly "fills up notebooks" with menu inspiration, and jokes that for someone who cooks Italian food, his mastery of the language is limited to food vocabulary – rather than "asking for directions to the train station".

Clearly he feeds this enthusiasm into his work, where he has been known to hold competitions in his Spuntino kitchen for finding the longest strings of cheese in their macaroni cheese dish from pan to mouth.

"I'm not the current holder," laughs Norman, who indulged his love of stringy cheese on holiday to Tuscany where he had "strands of cheese that looked like telephone wires".

Hearty meals like macaroni cheese form the basis of his new book *Spuntino*, which celebrates the comforting dishes they serve up on a daily basis.

"These aren't refined flavours that we have on the menu at Spuntino," he says. "We're not in the realms of delicate ingredients and subtle combination; this is comfort food, nursery food, pure



■ **CLASS ACT:** Russell Norman. Below, his new book, *Spuntino*.

Norman's conquest of the kitchen

and simple. It's the sort of thing you want to eat when you have a hangover or when you're really hungry. It's food that's about celebrating or enjoying."

And while his Polpo restaurants resemble the "backstreet wine bars of Venice", Spuntino is all about the Big Apple.

"I'm going to sound a bit naff here, but there's a bit in *Sex And The City*, where Sarah Jessica Parker's character talks about the additional character of the programme being the city of New York," he laughs. "It's a rather cheesy way of summarising it, but New York does have its own energy. It's one of those places that really makes you feel good to be alive."

If you fancy a bite of the Big Apple, here is a comforting dish from Spuntino.

BUTTERNUT, RAINBOW CHARD AND TALEGGIO

(Serves four)
1 small butternut squash; small handful of sage leaves; 2 garlic cloves, finely chopped; flaky sea salt and black pepper; extra virgin olive oil; fine salt; 1 bunch of rainbow chard, about 200g, thoroughly washed; 200g Taleggio, thinly sliced.

PRE-HEAT the oven to 200C/Gas 6. Cut the butternut in half lengthways, scoop out the seeds, then cut the flesh into small to medium 'chips'. Place in a large bowl with the sage leaves, one of the chopped garlic cloves, a few

very good pinches of sea salt, a twist of black pepper, and two tablespoons of olive oil.

Turn everything over a few times with your hands to coat the butternut thoroughly, then transfer to a baking tray and put the tray into the oven. After 10 minutes, turn the pieces of butternut over and cook for a further 10 minutes.

Meanwhile, prepare the rainbow chard. Place a pan of salted water over a high heat and bring to the boil. Separate the leaves and the stems. Cut the stems diagonally into bite-sized strips. Cut the leaves into quarters.

Once the water has come to the boil, add the stems and cook for one minute, then add the leaves and boil for a further 30 seconds. Remove from the water and squeeze out any excess liquid. Place into a large mixing bowl and add a good few glugs of olive oil, a pinch of salt and pepper and the remaining chopped garlic clove. Turn several times to coat the chard well.

Once the butternut comes out of the oven, place the chard on top and then slices of Taleggio. Return to the oven for two minutes, so that the cheese has just started to melt.

Carefully transfer to serving plates. This lovely warm salad is best eaten immediately.

MAC AND CHEESE

(Serves six)
250g macaroni pasta; fine salt; 250ml whole milk; 450ml double cream; 175g grated Parmesan; 250g grated mozzarella - the hard, cheap kind; 1 1/2tbsp Dijon mustard; 2 leeks; 25g butter; 2 garlic cloves, finely chopped; flaky sea salt and black pepper; 75g panko breadcrumbs (made from bread without crusts); 85g grated Fontina

BRING a large pan of water to a rolling boil, add the pasta and some fine salt, and stir. When the water boils again, turn down to a medium heat and follow the instructions on the packet, usually simmering for around 11 minutes. Drain when al dente.

Once cooled, transfer the drained pasta to a large mixing bowl and add the milk, the double cream, 125g of the Parmesan, half of the mozzarella and the Dijon mustard. Mix together thoroughly and leave to soak for two hours.

Meanwhile, trim the leeks by removing and discarding the green tops and the roots, and finely chop. Wash the chopped leeks thoroughly to get rid of any grit. Place a medium pan over a low heat, melt the butter and very gently sweat the leeks with the garlic, four large pinches of flaky sea salt and a good pinch of black pepper.

After about 10 minutes, the leeks will have a translucent, glossy appearance. Take off the heat and leave to cool. Once the leeks have cooled, drain off any lingering fluid and add them to the soaking pasta.

Mix the breadcrumbs with the remaining Parmesan and set aside.

Preheat the oven to 200C/Gas 6. Add the grated Fontina and the remaining mozzarella to the pasta dish and combine well.

Transfer the mix to a large baking dish or six individual dishes and cover with the breadcrumb and Parmesan mix.

Bake in the preheated oven 'til golden brown and bubbling, for 25 minutes if using one large dish, or 15-20 minutes if using individual dishes.



MARK HIX'S RECIPE OF THE WEEK

Game sausage roll

Serves six to eight

THIS is great for picnics, or to take to a shoot or fishing trip, served with a jelly like rowan, quince or redcurrant.

You could even serve it as a main course at a dinner party, with maybe some curly kale and a red wine sauce.

Butchers often sell bits and bobs of game meat for pies and things – and mixed with some pork belly they make rather a good sausage roll.

Ingredients

250g coarsely minced game meat
250g coarsely minced pork belly
1tbsp chopped thyme leaves
3-4tbsp chopped parsley
Salt and freshly ground white pepper
150-200g butter puff pastry, rolled to about 1/3 cm thick
1 small egg, beaten

Method

Preheat the oven to 200C/gas mark 6. Mix the game, pork, thyme and parsley together and season well.

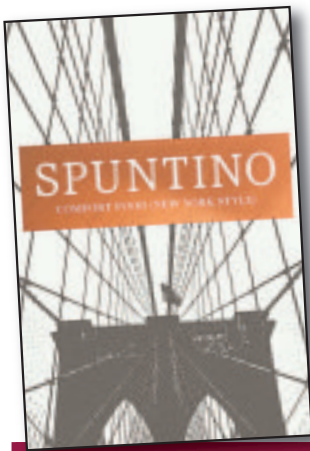
Stretch some cling film on your work surface and put the mixture in the middle, in a rough large sausage shape. Roll the cling film around it and twist the ends in opposite directions, so the meat forms an even cylinder about 6-8cm diameter.

Lay the puff pastry on the work surface, then carefully turn out the meat on the nearest end. Roll the pastry around the meat so it overlaps by a couple of centimetres, trimming the rest off. Brush the edge with egg, then seal. Pinch the ends down to seal the meat in, again trimming any excess.

Place on a baking tray, brush with the beaten egg and bake for about 20 minutes until golden. Once cooled you can take it to your picnic whole, and slice when ready to serve.



■ **ONE TO SAVOUR:** Game sausage roll, the latest mouth-watering creation from leading chef Mark Hix. Enjoy another one next week.



Talk Of The Town

Music | Theatre | Reviews

THE second annual Wilma Awards took place at a glittering ceremony at The Hippodrome Casino on October 30 – attended by some of the most acclaimed stars of the West End, writes Nicky Sweetland.

The dazzling celebration saw the blogger West End Wilma reward stars of theatre with gongs voted for by the show-going public.

The party was hosted by Resonance FM's Curtain Up show presenter Tim McArthur, who opened the show with a song before inviting guests to applaud both the nominees and award winners in a wide array of categories that perfectly highlighted Wilma's passion for all aspects of theatre.

She has been championing the London theatre scene for a number of years, with her popular website providing interesting and insightful blogs, showbiz interviews and famously truthful reviews. The aged Nana always adds an elegant twist to her theatre news and has amassed an army of fans from both sides of the curtain, with immense support from the West End community.

Awards show devotees were treated to some incredible solo performances from former *Wicked* good witch Gina Beck, understudy Phantom and barricade boy Kieron Brown and the star of *Carrie*, Evelyn Hoskins, who later won the rising star award. There were also some high-profile winners, with *Miss Saigon*'s Jon Jon Briones and Eva Noblezada picking up awards for best actor and actress respectively.

Rachel Tucker, who is currently playing Elphaba in *Wicked* on Broadway, won the award for best solo/cabaret performance and sent a specially recorded message from backstage at the Gerishwin Theatre in New York.

One of the biggest awards of



■ **STAR TURNS:** Former *Wicked* good witch Gina Beck with West End Wilma.



■ **ACCLAIM:** Ashleigh Gray, left, Elphaba in *Wicked*, with the show's Wilma award for Best Touring Production. Right, Beverley Knight with her Best Vocal Performance award, sponsored by the London Weekly News. Pictures: Ollie Boito Photography



Salute to best of the West End

the night, however, was for the best vocal performance category, sponsored by the *London Weekly News*.

Presented by *Wicked*'s Oliver Saville, the award was won by singing sensation Beverley Knight for her performance in the musical *Memphis*. Knight, who is now starring at the Palladium as Grizabella in *Cats*, praised the show and highlighted the need to support

new theatre in London.

The Wilma Awards are an important addition to the London awards scene, and with fans and performers alike giving support, are likely to remain a firm fixture on the calendar for many years to come.

If you would like to know more about West End Wilma or any of the awards, visit her website westendwilma.com



■ **WINNERS:** *Miss Saigon*'s Jon Jon Briones and Eva Noblezada picking up awards for best actor and actress respectively, above left. Right: *Wicked*'s Oliver Saville with West End Wilma.



ALL THE WINNERS

- Best touring production *Wicked*
- Best vocal performance Beverley Knight, *Memphis*
- Best family show *Bugsy Malone*
- Best actor Jon Jon Briones, *Miss Saigon*
- Best cabaret/solo performance Rachel Tucker
- Best actress Eva Noblezada, *Miss Saigon*
- Rising star Evelyn Hoskins
- Most welcoming venue Prince of Wales Theatre
- Most underrated West End show *Urinetown*
- Best off West End show *Carrie*, Southwark Playhouse

The Friends Christmas Fair

Wednesday 2nd December 2015
10am - 2pm

Chelsea & Westminster Hospital
Ground Floor, Main Atrium

toys gifts cakes wine

The Friends logo: adding the human touch to your care since 1993

Talk Of The Town

london Listings

Soul Night at Koko, Camden

November 10

Tony Blackburn's legendary Soul Night, in which the DJ is joined on stage by artists including The Three Degrees, Shaun Escoffery, Lemar, Diane Shaw, Jaki Graham, Kenny Thomas and Odyssey, will take place on Tuesday, November 10 at London's Koko, Camden. Tickets for this special evening are £30. From this a minimum of £12.50 will be donated to BBC Children In Need. Blackburn said: "I think the annual soul night is well and truly here to stay. I can't wait to get back on that stage alongside this year's artists for some great performances, and it's all for a great cause!" David Robey, BBC Radio London editor, said: "Tony's Soul Night was a huge success in the 1980s on BBC Radio London, so it feels appropriate to stage another Soul Night revival to coincide with the return of our radio station's name to BBC Radio London."

Elf the musical at the Dominion Theatre

To January 2

This year's festive must-see show is going to be this heart-warming extravaganza. The show, based on the 2003 film which starred Will Ferrell in the title role, was a smash hit on Broadway and is likely to be London's hottest ticket this season, despite the much reported high ticket prices. The show stars former Girls Aloud songstress Kimberley Walsh alongside West End heart throb Ben Forster, who will once again play the eponymous hero after wowing audiences last year in the role in both Plymouth and Dublin.

The Jack Tars at the 100 Club

November 25

The band features four of the great punk rock legends from across the globe: Captain Sensible from The Damned, Slim Jim Phantom from Stray Cats, Chris Cheney from The Living End and Mike Peters from The Alarm. This is the first time the group have played together in the UK and the evening promises to be one not to miss for any punk rock fans. For further information visit their website thejacktars.com

Carmen at the Royal Opera House

To November 30

Experience the power and magnetism of Bizet's most popular opera as Carmen returns to the stage at the Royal Opera House. His 17th and final opera, Carmen tells the story of Don Jose, an inexperienced young soldier seeking to marry Micaela, a girl that he knows from his home village.

The Old Vic Variety Nights

November 15

Nostalgia lovers will warm to this most traditional of shows, featuring Tim Minchin and the magician Dynamo. For details, see the website oldvictheatre.com

The World Goes Pop at the Tate Modern

Until January 24, 2016

Over 200 works by artists from Latin America to Asia celebrates the many faces of pop art. This show isn't about the pop art you know, it's about the pop art that escaped the history books. And it certainly packs a punch. It's fun, engaging, colourful, revelatory, opinionated, racy and stunning. Most importantly the show illuminates how pop wasn't confined to Andy Warhol's Factory in New York or Richard Hamilton's studio in London – it was a phenomenon that reached much further, practiced by artists in Peru, Israel, Argentina, Japan, Brazil and Eastern Europe. In an opening gallery painted scintillating red, the work quite literally pops off the walls. Here, traditional techniques are turned on their head, such as Japanese woodblock printing in Ushio Shinohara's 'Doll Festival', (1966) which is reinvigorated with the use of industrial materials like Perspex. Moving on, you'll find the mimicry of media and the language of mass production, the repetition of advertising strategies and consumerist logos, the appropriation of icons from popular culture, the re-evaluation of the role of women and the subversion of political symbolism. It makes for a riveting, eye-opening group exhibition that re-educates us on a movement that really reached out to embrace us – and continues to do so.

Walt Disney's Sleigh Bells at BFI Southbank

December 12

The world premiere of the new restoration of the Walt Disney film *Sleigh Bells* (1928), featuring the first-ever Disney character, Oswald the Lucky Rabbit, a long-eared precursor to Mickey Mouse, will take place at BFI Southbank on December 12 as part of a programme It's A Disney Christmas: Seasonal Shorts, screening other festive Disney gems from the 1930s to the present day.

Cats at the London Palladium

Until January 2

Enduringly popular musical Cats will play at the London Palladium for a strictly limited run until January 2 2016. Beverley Knight is Grizabella the Glamour Cat. For more details visit the website catsthemusical.com

Through the Mill at London Theatre Workshop

December 1 to 19

Through the Mill – a new play by Ray Rackham featuring a hit list of Judy Garland's greatest standards will get its world premiere in a three-week season at London Theatre Workshop from Tuesday, December 1 to Saturday, December 19. For more details visit their website londontheatreworkshop.com

WICKED, the award-winning musical that tells the untold story of the witches of Oz, is again launching the prestigious Wicked Young Writer Awards, now in their sixth year and this year with a new non-fiction category.

The Duchess of Cornwall has agreed to extend her patronage for a further five years.

She said at the awards ceremony in 2011: "I believe passionately in nurturing a love of reading and writing in children and young people of all ages. Reading is not only the start of a voyage of personal development and pleasure, but the foundation stone of all education."

How to Train Your Dragon author-illustrator Cressida Cowell is also returning to the judging panel as head judge. She said: "I am thrilled to be asked to be a judge for the second time. It is wonderful to be involved in an award which fires up the imaginations and confidence of these young writers. As an ambassador for the National Literacy Trust, I'm a real advocate of anything that gets young people reading and writing."

As in previous years, entrants can enter one of five different age categories; 5-7, 8-10, 11-14, 15-17 and 18-25. In addition,



A Wicked challenge

the 2016 awards scheme marks the launch of the For Good Award for Non-Fiction, encouraging 15-25 year olds to write essays or articles that recognise the positive impact that people can have on each other, their communities and the world we live in. The new category celebrates the Wicked: For Good programme, which supports the charitable causes at the heart of the stage musical.

The awards were created by the producers of *Wicked* in 2010, in collaboration with the National Literacy Trust and spearheaded by bestselling author Michael Morpurgo, to recognise excellence in writing, encourage creativity and develop writing talent in young people. Since launching, over 20,000 young people, aged between five and 25, have

entered original and thought-provoking pieces of writing that consistently reflect the interests, concerns and deepest thoughts of young people, providing a first-look at the emerging voices of a new generation.

A shortlist of 120 entrants from across the UK will see their work published in the *Wicked Young Writer Awards Anthology*. They are also invited to an exclusive ceremony at London's Apollo Victoria, home to the hit musical since 2006, where judges and members of the *Wicked* cast will announce who has won in each category.

Pieces of original writing can be submitted, either individually or as part of a school group, until 11 March 2016. The overall winners from each category will win a VIP family experience to the West End production of *Wicked*, including an exclusive backstage tour and cast meet-and-greet, £50 book/eBook tokens, plus £100 worth of books for their school library donated by Hachette Children's Books. The individual school with the highest number of entries will receive a bespoke writing workshop at their respective school.

Details can be found at www.WickedYoungWriters.com

Punk's coming home: sensible!

PUNK rock is coming back to where it all started later this month when The Jack Tars play at the 100 Club in Oxford Street for one night only as part of their UK tour, writes Nicky Sweetland.

The band features four of the great punk rock legends from across the globe: Captain Sensible from The Damned, Slim Jim Phantom from Stray Cats, Chris Cheney from The Living End and Mike Peters from The Alarm. This is the first time the group have played together in the UK and the evening promises to be one not to miss for any punk rock fans. I caught up with Captain Sensible, aka Raymond Burns, to talk about the tour and how special the 100 Club is to the punk rock movement.

Burns asked me to call him Captain and said: "We're doing the 100 Club, which is the scene of the crime, where punk rock started. I'm so glad to be going back there. I'm so glad it still exists. It's as important to rock and roll as the Albert Hall is to classical music."

In September 1976 the 100 Club hosted the first international punk festival and helped to bring the underground movement into the mainstream. The Sex Pistols, The Clash and The Jam were just some of the groups who played at the festival, along with the



■ HOME: Captain Sensible.

Captain's band The Damned.

"I haven't played there for three or four years. I remember standing there back in the day, watching the Sex Pistols and thinking they're never going to make it and then of course they scattered a few swear words around on an early evening TV programme and the rest is history, so how wrong was I?"

The tour will feature the back catalogues of all the members and with Chris Cheney known for playing the guitar with a beer bottle, needless to say the show is going to be extremely lively and loud.

"We started out just as a bunch of mates who jumped up on stage with each other and sang each other's songs just for a jam, you know. It's a lot of fun. You're going to hear the greatest hits of all the people in

the band and we're going to have some guests so we may sing a couple of their tunes as well. Just kind of a rock and roll party really."

The band has already enjoyed a successful tour in America and is attracting a whole new audience as well as the more mature hard core punk fans.

The Captain explained what he thought the appeal was.

"A lot of youngsters come along so I think we must be doing something right. You can't really knock the rebel music; loud guitars and a thrashing drum kit are such a magnificent combination."

The 61-year-old rocker has calmed down a little since the wilder days of his youth. I asked him if he could now be described as sensible?

"In those days I was a one-man party, that's where I got my name from as in 'you've got a right Captain Sensible there, mate' when I was on one of my famous benders. Nowadays I try and go on stage and play some of the right notes in the right order but I am the element of chaos in Jack Tar so I try to bring some of that with me, especially at the 100 Club."

■ The Jack Tars will be appearing at the 100 Club on November 25. For further information visit their website thejacktars.com

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Talk Of The Town

THERE'S a new glamour cat prowling the stage at the London Palladium. Soul singing superstar Beverley Knight has joined the cast of *Cats*. Knight, who recently won a West End Wilma award for her acclaimed run in *Memphis* at the Shaftesbury Theatre, is playing the iconic role of Grizabella in the revival of the Andrew Lloyd Webber classic musical.

Cats is based on *Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats* by TS Eliot. The original production ran at the New London Theatre from 1981 to 2002, playing a total of 8,949 performances. The 1980s team was reunited to bring the revival back to life last year, with Trevor Nunn, Gillian Lynne and Chrissie Cartwright bringing their expertise to the Palladium.

Knight is a multi-award-winning singer who was made an MBE in 2007 in recognition of her charitable work and her contribution to British music. After a string of successful West End leading roles already behind her, Beverley steps into the show, which until recently she admits to not knowing much about. Knight talked to *London Weekly News* entertainment reporter **Nicky Sweetland** about her love of Eliot's poetry and the challenges of tackling such a famous role

A great Knight for the family

BEVERLEY Knight has a small confession to make.

"I didn't know the show *Cats* really other than obviously the song *Memory*. I don't think there's a human being alive that doesn't know *Memory*!"

"I didn't know *Cats* the show but absolutely knew TS Eliot and his work, having studied it at school and having a love for poetry in general. That made it easier for getting my head around the show."

The part of Grizabella the Glamour Cat, although not large, is seen as by many as the lead role, mostly because it includes the performance of the show's most famous song *Memory*. The threadbare, more mature mouser has been played by many of musical theatre's most famous divas, including Elaine Paige, Nicole Scherzinger and most recently the Queen of the West End, Kerry Ellis.

With such large paws to fill, Beverley explained how she felt it was very important to understand the meaning of the

standard's lyrics.

"It's a wonderful song to sing. It's a song which I think, as famous and iconic as it is, it's misunderstood by most people who hear it. Now that I'm in the show I totally understand why it does what it does. When you hear it out of the context of the show, it's still fantastic but you never get the real meaning that it was meant to convey. I'm so glad now that I'm in the show and that I have that appreciation of why Grizabella's singing it, why the coming morning is terrible as opposed to wonderful and why she wants her memories to have a chance to live again. It's some powerful stuff for what was a collection of poems for kids."

The transformation from beautiful singing star to shabby old moggy is no easy task, but the costumes and make-up are a huge part of the production and something both the show and the character are very famous for. Beverley is a great lover of make-up and so has found it an enjoyable rather than an onerous part of the production.



■ PAWS FOR THOUGHT: Beverley Knight is Grizabella in *Cats*.

Picture: Matt Crockett

"They're stunning, just stunning and very precise. I love that because you know exactly what you're trying to achieve. There's no area of attitude. It's not so clothed that you can't bring your own flavour to something but there is a very specific way of having the Grizy make-up and the outfit and I love that they got that. I've always loved make-up and it's so interesting looking in the mirror, looking at myself and then watching my face as I go on and change into cat woman." She laughs. "It's great."

Cats has been performed worldwide and translated into more than 20 languages. Macavity, Skimbleshanks and

the magical Mr Mistoffelees all help to introduce the colourful, complex and captivating world of kitties. With magical characters, sensational music and impressive staging, the show has continued to charm and delight audiences of all ages. Beverley thinks the show still has such an enduring appeal.

"It's stunning. I think TS Eliot wrote these poems as a collection for his God kids and thought it would keep them entertained but what's happened is they've taken on a life of their own. They obviously entertained other children. Andrew Lloyd Webber found them and together with Trevor Nunn and everyone created this

show. Adults could relive their childhood days and children could see the wonder of *Cats* coming to life on a stage and that kind of passing down I believe is why the show just keeps coming back to theatres all over the place. Every adult who has ever seen the show wants to bring their child to experience the same wonder that they did and every child that sees the show never forgets that wonderment, which is a fantastic thing."

■ *Cats* will play at the London Palladium for a strictly limited run until January 2, 2016. For more details visit the website catsthemusical.com

Rackham pays tribute to Garland

HELEN Sheels, Belinda Wollaston and Lucy Penrose have been cast to play Judy Garland in three different stages of her life in *Through the Mill*, a new play by Ray Rackham featuring a hit list of Garland's greatest standards.

Through the Mill chronicles the turbulent life of the legendary singer, her rise from teenager to MGM movie star, from "has-been" to concert hall darling and her short-lived career as a TV personality.

On film, on stage or in people's living rooms every Sunday evening, Garland was, and continues to be, one of the biggest stars of Hollywood's golden age, as damaged by conflict as she was celebrated.

Through the Mill gives the audience an opportunity to go beyond the rainbow and witness the life of a woman destined for greatness, one who is as loved today as she was when she made her way along the yellow brick road.

Through the Mill is written by Rackham, who is artistic director of the London Theatre Workshop, directed by Max Reynolds and choreographed by Chris Whittaker.

Through the Mill will get its world premiere in a three-week season at London Theatre Workshop from Tuesday, December 1 to Saturday, December 19. For more details visit their website londontheatreworkshop.com



■ LEGEND: Judy Garland's turbulent life is chronicled in a new play, *Through the Mill*

Fundraising will be a drag

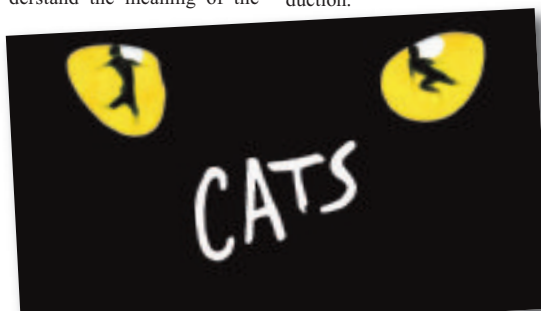
THE Hippodrome Casino in Leicester Square will be festooned with glitter and sequins on Thursday, November 19, when a whole host of West End performers will don their stilettoes for the MAD drag night.

The show to raise money for the Make a Difference Trust will also include some of the biggest stars of UK drag and will be hosted by celebrity guests including Sherri Shepherd and Dean McCullough.

The Make A Difference Trust has for the past 25 years raised funds through the theatre community for HIV and AIDS projects that raise awareness and provide care both here in the UK and in sub-Saharan Africa.

The MAD drag night promised to be a high energy, hugely fun and extremely camp evening of entertainment, and all for a very worthy cause.

For more information or to book tickets visit the website madtrust.seetickets.com



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**LONDON BOROUGH OF
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SECTION 14(1)
(GOLDHAWK ROAD III)
TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC**

1. The Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham hereby gives notice that in order to facilitate crane operation works in the Goldhawk Road, it is proposing to make an Order the effect of which would prohibit traffic in the above named road.
2. Whilst works are in progress, or whilst the authorised traffic signs are displayed, no person shall cause any vehicle to proceed, stop, wait, load or unload in the eastbound carriageway of Goldhawk Road between its junctions with Greenside Road and wingate Road.
3. An alternative route for traffic in article 2 would be in place via Paddenswick Road, Glenthorne Road, Beadon Road and Shepherds Bush Road.
4. Exemptions would be provided in the Order to permit reasonable access to premises, so far as it is practical without interference with the execution of the said work and for works vehicles, any vehicle being used in connection with police, fire or ambulance purposes and anything done with the permission or at the direction of a police constable in uniform.
5. The Order would come into operation on Saturday, 21st November 2015 and would be valid for a maximum period of 18 months or until works are completed, whichever is the sooner.
6. Works would be expected to commence on Saturday, 21st November 2015 and last for 2 days with back up dates scheduled for 28th & 29th November 2015. The dates specified are for guidance and informative purposes only and works may extend outside these dates.

Dated this 2nd day of November 2015

Chris Bainbridge
Head of Transport Policy & Network Management
Transport & Technical Services

**LONDON BOROUGH OF
HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
SECTION 14(1)
(ROWAN ROAD)
TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC**

1. The Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham hereby gives notice that in order to facilitate the installation of a tower crane in the above named road, it intends to make an Order the effect of which would prohibit traffic and suspend the one-way system in a section of the above named road.
2. Whilst works are in progress, or whilst the authorised traffic signs are displayed, no person shall cause any vehicle to proceed, stop, wait, load or unload in a section of Rowan Road between its junction with Hammersmith Road and No. 11 Rowan Road.
3. Whilst works are in progress, or whilst the authorised traffic signs are displayed the northbound one-way system shall be suspended between No. 11 and No. 31 Rowan Road.
4. An alternative route for traffic in article 2 would be in place via Hammersmith Road, Brook Green and Luxembourg Gardens.
5. Exemptions would be provided in the Order to permit reasonable access to premises, so far as it is practical without interference with the execution of the said work and for works vehicles, any vehicle being used in connection with police, fire or ambulance purposes and anything done with the permission or at the direction of a police constable in uniform.
6. The Order would come into operation on Saturday, 28th November 2015 and would be valid for a maximum period of 18 months or until works are completed, whichever is the sooner.
7. Works would be expected to commence on Saturday, 28th November 2015 and last for 2 days. With back up dates scheduled for the 5th or 12th December 2015. The dates specified are for guidance and informative purposes only and works may extend outside these dates.

Dated this 4th day of November 2015

Chris Bainbridge
Head of Transport Policy & Network Management
Transport & Technical Services

**LONDON BOROUGH OF
HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
SECTION 14(1)
(SHEPHERD'S BUSH ROAD)
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3. An alternative route for traffic in article 2 would be in place via Glenthorne Road, Hammersmith Grove and Goldhawk Road.
4. Exemptions would be provided in the Order to permit reasonable access to premises, so far as it is practical without interference with the execution of the said work and for works vehicles, any vehicle being used in connection with police, fire or ambulance purposes and anything done with the permission or at the direction of a police constable in uniform.
5. The Order would come into operation on the 30th November 2015 and would be valid for a maximum period of 18 months or until works are completed, whichever is the sooner.
6. Works would be expected to commence on Friday 30th November 2015 and last for 1 day. The dates specified are for guidance and informative purposes only and works may extend outside these dates.

Dated this 30th day of October 2015.

Chris Bainbridge
Head of Transport Policy & Network Management
Transport & Technical Services

**Local Planning Applications
London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham**

PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990

I give notice that applications have been made to the Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham as follows:

FOR DEVELOPMENT WHICH MAY AFFECT THE CHARACTER OR APPEARANCE OF A CONSERVATION AREA

185 Dawes Road SW6 2015/05110/FUL

Erection of a rear roof extension.

6 Ravenscourt Square W6 2015/05076/FUL

Erection of a single storey rear extension, to the side and rear of the existing back addition; installation of French doors and the formation of a roof terrace at first floor level to the rear elevation; conversion of the existing building from 2no self-contained flats into a single family dwellinghouse.

84 Brackenbury Road W6 2015/05087/FUL

Erection of a front and rear roof extension involving an increase in the ridge height; erection of a rear extension at second floor level, on top of the existing back addition; installation of 2no rooflights over the main flat roof at roof level; installation of 1no window to the side of the proposed rear back addition at second floor level.

40 Beltran Road SW6 2015/05090/FUL

Demolition of the existing building with the exception of the front facade, erection of a replacement part one, part two, part three storey plus-basement single family dwellinghouse; formation of a roof terrace at first floor and the erection of external staircase from basement to garden level at the rear of the property.

498 - 504 Fulham Road SW6 2015/05114/FUL

Erection of an additional floor at roof level in connection with the creation of 2 x one bedroom self-contained flats; increasing the height of the brick gable roof including the installation of new windows to the gable elevation in between third and fourth floor level; raising the parapet wall at roof level.

97 Coningham Road W12 2015/03586/FUL

Erection of a rear roof extension involving an increase in the ridge height; erection of 3 rooflights in the front roofslope; erection of a rear extension at second floor level, on top of the existing back addition; formation of a roof terrace together with the installation of a door to access the roof terrace at third floor level on top of the existing back addition; Replacement windows at first and second floor level to the front and rear elevation; conversion of the first, second and third floor level into 1 x one bedroom and 1 x three bedroom self-contained flats.

24 Fulham Palace Road W6 2015/05146/FUL

Erection of a rear extension at first floor level over part of the existing back addition; installation of a new shopfront; installation of new doors to replace the existing doors at ground floor level to the side elevation; installation of a new window to replace the existing window at second floor level to the rear elevation; replacement of existing extract duct at the rear of the property with a new internal duct including a roof vent on the rear roofslope.

95 Wulfstan Street W12 2015/05039/FUL

Erection of a rear roof extension; erection of a single storey rear extension; installation of 2no. rooflights in the front roofslope; installation of 1no. window at ground floor level and 1no. window at first floor level to the front elevation to replace existing; and installation of 1 metre high white painted picket fencing to the front boundary to replace existing.

67 Masbro' Road W14 2015/04916/FUL

Change of use of part of the ground floor level from retail (Class A1) into residential use (Class C3).

28 Marville Road SW6 2015/04106/FUL

Erection of a rear extension at second floor level, over part of the existing back addition; erection of a rear extension at first floor level, on top of the existing back addition; erection of a single storey rear extension, to the side of the existing back addition; excavation of the front garden and part of the rear garden to form lightwells, in connection with the creation of a new basement; installation of a flat roof light to flat roof at roof level.

97 The Grampians Shepherd's Bush Road W6 2015/04703/FUL

Replacement of the existing front door with a new FD30 rated fire door and painting of the new door in the same colour as the previous.

Shepherd's Bush Tabernacle Shepherd's Bush Road W6 2015/05042/FUL

Installation of new steel gates to replace the existing to the main front entrance; installation of new double glazed windows to replace the existing windows at lower ground floor level to the northern elevation.

Maisonette First And Second Floors York House Armingher Road W12 2015/05069/FUL

Replacement of existing rear roof extension with an enlarged dormer roof extension; installation of 2no rooflights in the front roofslope; installation of French doors and a Juliet balcony in the rear roofslope; alterations to the roof of back addition to incorporate a flat roof and the erection of railings around the flat roof at third floor level to the rear elevation, in connection with its use as a terrace.

29 Inglethorpe Street SW6 2015/05065/FUL

Erection of a front dormer roof extension comprising of 3no dormer windows in the front roofslope; erection of a rear extension at second floor level over part of the existing back addition; installation of a new dormer window to replace the existing French doors and a Juliet balcony in the rear roofslope; installation of a fixed glazed rooflight over the roof of single storey back addition.

28 Dunraven Road W12 2015/05057/FUL

Retention of two flat rooflights to rear roof extension at roof level; installation of one flat rooflight to roof of the back addition at second floor level.

129A Dawes Road SW6 2015/05058/FUL

Erection of a rear roof extension; installation of three rooflights in the front roofslope; erection of a two storey rear extension at first and second floor levels; erection of a two storey rear extension, to the side of the existing back addition at ground and first floor levels; erection of railings around flat roof at second floor level for use as a terrace; in connection with the change of use of the rear part of the ground floor from Class (B1), first, second and third floors as two one bedroom and one three bedroom self contained residential units.

35 Tamworth Street SW6 2015/04888/FUL

Erection of a rear roof extension; raising of the party wall at roof level; installation of 3no rooflights in the front roofslope; erection of a rear extension at second floor level over part of the existing back addition; alterations to the roof of back addition to incorporate a flat roof and the erection of obscure glazed screens and metal railings around the flat roof at second floor level to the rear elevation, in connection with its use as a terrace; replacement of existing window with a new window at second floor level to the rear elevation; installation of a new window to the side of rear back addition at first floor level; erection of a single storey rear extension, to the side and rear of the existing back addition; conversion of the existing dwellinghouse into 1 x one bedroom and 2 x two bedroom self-contained flats.

25 Micklethwaite Road SW6 2015/04898/FUL

Erection of a single storey rear extension, to the side and rear of the existing back addition; installation of a new window to replace the existing to the side of single storey back addition; replacement of existing window with doors to the rear of the proposed reception area at ground floor level; excavation of the front, rear and side gardens to form lightwells in connection with the creation of a new basement.

216, 218 And 220 Munster Road SW6 2015/05054/FUL

Erection of additional floors at roof level to No 216, 218 and 220.

123 Claxton Grove W6 2015/05038/FUL

Erection of a rear extension at second floor level, over part of the existing back addition; erection of a single storey rear extension to the side of the existing back addition; installation of 3no. rooflights to replace the existing 2no. rooflights in the front roofslope; installation of French doors and a Juliet balcony to replace existing dormer window on the rear elevation at roof level; and installation of French doors and a Juliet balcony to replace existing window on the rear elevation at first floor level.

Brigade House 8 Parsons Green SW6 2015/05055/FUL

Change of use of part of the second, and all of the third and fourth floor levels from office use (Class B1) into residential (Class C3); erection of extensions at second, third and fourth floor levels in connection with the creation of 8 self-contained flats comprising of 2 x three bedroom, 2 x two bedroom and 4 x one bedroom flats; formation of terraces at second, third and fourth floor level; installation of PV panels, and formation of plant and stairs enclosures at roof level; green roofing above the third floor roof; alterations to the external facades.

726 - 728 Fulham Road SW6 2015/00314/FUL

Erection of a single storey outbuilding in the rear garden; excavation of the rear garden to form lightwells in connection with the enlargement of the existing basement; erection of railings and installation of artificial grass in the rear garden; associated landscaping and external alterations.

298 King Street W6 2015/05181/FUL

Retention of a shop front. The Quadrangle 49 Atalanta Street SW6 2015/05019/FUL Alterations to the front elevation at second floor level including the installation of doors to replace the existing windows, installation of obscured glass panel balustrade and handrail to the northern boundary in connection with the formation of roof terrace; installation of obscure film to the existing northern windows to the front elevation at second floor level.

88 Glenthorne Road W6 2015/04859/FUL

Erection of a single storey rear extension.

Flat Basement 43 Benbow Road W6 2015/00662/FUL

Erection of a single storey timber outbuilding in rear garden.

84 Peterborough Road SW6 2015/05111/FUL

Demolition of existing single storey garage in the rear garden and the erection of a replacement part one, part two storey single family dwellinghouse; reducing the height of the existing brick boundary walls; installation of a new pedestrian access gate to Sullivan Road elevation.

Flat D Second Floor 13 Batoum Gardens W6 2015/05115/FUL

Erection of a rear roof extension; erection of a rear extension at second floor level, on top of the existing back addition; installation of 3no rooflights in the front roofslope and 2no rooflights over the main flat roof at roof level; formation of a roof terrace at third floor level to the rear elevation.



158 Bishop's Road SW6 2015/04333/FUL

Excavation of the front garden to form a lightwell in connection with the enlargement the basement; installation of a new roof light to side extension at ground floor level.

498 - 504 Fulham Road SW6 2015/05148/FUL

Erection of an additional floor at fourth floor level in connection with the creation of 1 x one bedroom self-contained flat; raising of the parapet wall at roof level.

FOR CONSERVATION AREA CONSENT (DEMOLITION WORK)

FOR LISTED BUILDING CONSENT

97 The Grampians Shepherd's Bush Road W6 2015/04704/LBC

Replacement of the existing front door with a new FD30 rated fire door and painting of the new door in the same colour as the previous.

Former BBC Television Centre Wood Lane W12 2015/02498/LBC

Alterations to south eastern elevation of BBC Studios 2 and 3, comprising installation of 10 louvred panels at second floor level and installation of new louvre window on Scenery runway elevation (Revised Description).

FOR DEVELOPMENT WHICH MAY AFFECT THE SETTING OR CONTEXT OF A LISTED BUILDING

97 The Grampians Shepherd's Bush Road W6 2015/04703/FUL

Replacement of the existing front door with a new FD30 rated fire door and painting of the new door in the same colour as the previous.

Anyone who wishes to make representations about these applications should do so by 29th November 2015. See below for ways of commenting on applications.

THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) ORDER 2013

NOTICES UNDER REGULATION 13

Anyone who wishes to make representations about these applications should do so by 29th November 2015. See below for ways of commenting on applications.

Signed: **NIGEL PALLACE**

Executive Director for Transport and Technical Services

on behalf of HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM COUNCIL

You can view applications, make comments and monitor their progress on our website: www.lbhf.gov.uk/planning. Click on the 'Planning Online' logo on the Planning Home Page. You can also E-mail comments to: plancomments@lbhf.gov.uk

You can also inspect details of applications using computers at our office RECEPTION FIRST FLOOR HAMMERSMITH TOWN HALL EXTENSION KING STREET W6 between 9.00am and 5.00pm, Monday to Friday, excluding public holidays.

If you want to make comments on applications please E-mail them through our website or post them to: DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT SERVICE ENVIRONMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT TOWN HALL KING STREET W6 9JU by the date shown above. Please include the application reference number and the name of the planning officer. We will try to consider any representations received after the date indicated but this cannot be guaranteed so please reply promptly. For initial enquiries call our information and reception service on **020 8753 1081** or **020 8753 1082**.



Send us your comments about planning applications via our website: www.lbhf.gov.uk/planning

Public Notices

e-mail: classified@slp.co.uk
www.southlondon-today.co.uk

Tel: 020 8768 4939

CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE FOR ALL ADVERTISEMENTS

Orders are accepted by the Publishers subject to the Standard Conditions agreed between the Newspaper Society and the Institute of Practitioners in Advertising. Save that:

1. Advertisements are accepted on the conditions that (a) descriptions relating to goods are accurate and in no way contravene the provisions of the Trade Descriptions Act 1968, and the Fair Trading Act 1973, and (b) the copy complies with the British Code of Advertising Practice. Advertisements offering credit or hire facilities must conform to the Consumer Credit (Advertisements) Regulations 1980.
2. 'Classified' Advertisers offering goods or service of a business, commercial or trade nature will, at the discretion of the Publishers, be deemed 'Trade Advertisers', and as such, must include their names in advertisements. A telephone number is an optional addition to these requirements and not an alternative. To comply with the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order 1977, Trade Advertisers must make it clear that they are selling goods in the course of business either by content, format, size or place of the advertisement or by including words such as 'trade', 'dealer', 'agent', 'wholesaler', '(T)' etc. in the advertisement.
3. The Publishers accept no liability whatsoever for any loss or damage however caused arising out of:
 - (a) Any error, inaccuracy or omission in the printing or publishing of any advertisement;
 - (b) Any failure to publish an advertisement on the day / date or day / dates specified by the advertiser; or
 - (c) Any delay in forwarding or omission to forward replies to box numbers to the Advertiser.

4. The Publishers will endeavour to publish advertisements on the day / date or day / dates specified by the Advertiser but insertion days / dates cannot be guaranteed.
5. Where shrinkage of advertisement occurs for whatever reasons the advertisement will be charged to the nearest full centimetre. This will NOT apply to the full-page advertisements, which remain full pages even after shrinkage.
6. The Publishers reserve the right to reject an advertisement or to vary it in any way they deem fit, at any time before publication, whether or not the advertisement has already been accepted for publication.

7. Whilst every effort is made to minimise errors in advertisements, mistakes do sometimes occur. Advertisers or their agents should therefore check their advertisements and inform us of any errors immediately. Responsibility cannot be accepted for more than one incorrect insertion. Typographical or minor changes, which do not affect the value of the advertisement, do not qualify for republication or allowances.
8. All gross advertising rates (except classified lineage and semi-display) are subject to and include a 0.1% Advertising Standards Board of Finance surcharge, payable by the advertisers to help finance the self-regulatory control system administered by the Advertising Standards Authority.

9. All rates quoted are subject to VAT at the rate currently in force at the time the advertisement appears.
10. Should the rate for advertisements be altered the price for remaining insertions shall be revised accordingly or the publishers shall have the right to cancel the unexpired portion of the order.
11. The placing of an advertisement order will be deemed an acceptance of these conditions.

12. Account facilities are granted at the discretion of the Company.
13. All accounts must be settled within the terms agreed by the Company and the Customer.
 - (1) Should an advertiser be in breach of the agreed terms, the publisher shall be entitled to levy a 10% surcharge on the value of the whole debt in respect of accounts with terms of less than 30 days, and any discounts or commissions that had been allowed will be reclaimed.
 - (2) Regular monthly accounts that are in breach of the agreed terms will pay an interest rate of 6% above the current bank of England base rate for each month that the account is overdue and discounts or commissions that had been allowed will be reclaimed. Should Legal action be required the interest will be charged in accordance with the County Court Act 1984.

14. Where an advertiser instructs / appoints an advertising agent to act on their behalf, the advertiser will remain jointly and severally liable for payment in respect for an advertisement(s) should the appointed agent fail to pay. For the avoidance of doubt, the agent acts for the advertiser and not for the publisher with the agent being responsible for notifying the advertiser of this liability.
15. All queries must be notified, preferably in writing to the accounts department of the publisher within 7 days of the invoice date.
16. All digital services are maintained in partnership with the publishers' hosting service providers. Every effort is made to ensure the continuity of these services, but some occasional technical downtime beyond the publishers control may occur. The publisher and its associated companies shall be under no liability if the production and distribution of web services is delayed or prevented by any cause beyond the control of the publisher.
17. The Publisher may provide voucher copies for published advertisements in electronic form only subject to certain criteria. Further information is available on request.
18. The copyright of advertisements produced wholly or partially by the Publishers belong to the Publishers. Advertisers may not reproduce such advertisements without the Publishers' consent.

- Box Numbers**
Boxes are open for the receipt of bona fide answers and are not available for distribution of trade canvassing matter. Original testimonials, goods, cash, cash stamps or payments of any kind must not be enclosed. A box Number and postal address are charged as part of the advertisement, i.e. Box No., centre address. There is no charge for forwarding replies.
- Box numbers alone are not available for use in 'Trade' advertisements, other than Employment and Business Opportunities.
- Holiday & Travel Category**
All advertising must contain the name of the advertiser, phone number alone are not permitted.
- Data Protection**
The service you have requested may require us to carry out a credit search at a credit-referencing agency, which will record the fact that a search has been made. We may need to share your information with other lenders and credit reference agencies. However, we will only use the information from these searches to make credit-granting decisions and, if necessary, for fraud prevention or tracing debtors.

- Data controller will use your information for administration and analysis. We may share your information with other Tindle Group Newspaper companies or carefully selected third parties. We, or they, may send you details of other goods and services, which may be of interest to you. The information may be provided by letter, telephone or other reasonable means of communication. Calls may be recorded or monitored for training purposes.
- Special conditions apply with regard to the advertising of adult services, which are outlined to all persons submitting such advertisements.

JOHN OLIVER COX

LATE OF WESTMINSTER,
LONDON W2
DIED THERE

ON 27 APRIL 2013

The kin of the above named are requested to apply to the Treasury Solicitor (BV), One Kemble Street, London, WC2B 4TS or at www.gov.uk/bonavacantia, failing which the Treasury Solicitor may take steps to administer the estate.



Government
Legal Department

Licensing Act 2003 Notice of Application for a Major Variation of a Premises Licence

An application has been made to Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea by Sakda Sunthornasathun, for a major variation of a Premises Licence for premises known as Thai Rice, 333 Portobello Road, London, W10 5TD.

The application is to extend alcohol sales by one hour so that they take place daily Monday to Saturday until midnight and on Sundays until 11.30pm (and to extend Late Night Refreshment to 30 minutes beyond these times). The application also seeks to remove old converted conditions 8 (except 8b which is to be amended and 8f which is to remain) and 10 carried over from the previous licensing regime, as they are/will be no longer relevant.

The full application setting out full details of the licence sought can be viewed at the offices of the licensing authority at 37 Pembroke Road, London W8 6PW during normal office hours (ring in advance to check). Further information may be available at www.rbkc.gov.uk

Persons who may be affected by the grant of the application or responsible authorities can make representations to the Licensing Authority by 30 November 2015. All representations must be made in writing.

It is an offence under Section 158 of the Licensing Act 2003 for anyone to recklessly or knowingly make a false statement in connection with a licensing application. The maximum fine on conviction is £5,000.

BERWIN LEIGHTON PAISNER LLP
020 3400 2105

**To
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please call
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8768 4921**

THE LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM NOTICE UNDER THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 SECTION 123(2A) (as Amended) Land in Marcus Garvey Park, Gorleston Street, London W14 ("the Land")

1. The Land shown hatched black on the attached plan form part of an open space and measure 143.78sqm is held by the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham ("the Council")

2. NOTICE IS HEREBY given pursuant to Section 123(2A) of the Local Government Act 1972 that the Council intends to dispose of the Land by way of a licence to occupy for a term of three months for the purpose of a temporary use as a contractor's compound for purposes of development of adjacent property.

3. Any objection on the intended disposal must be made in writing and addressed to:

Ian Ross

Parks Manager

London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham, Co/ The Stable Yard, Holland Park, Ilchester Place, LONDON W8 6LU

No later than the 25 November 2015 (quoting reference VPS/MG/MGP)
Dated this 10 November 2015

Ian Ross
on behalf of The London Borough of
Hammersmith and Fulham



LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1)

(ROSTREVOR MEWS) TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC

1. The Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham hereby gives notice that in order to facilitate Thames Water works to be carried out in the above named road, it made an Order the effect of which prohibits vehicular traffic in a section of the above named road.
2. Whilst works are in progress, or whilst the authorised traffic signs are displayed, no person shall cause any vehicle to proceed, stop, wait, load or unload in Rostrevor Mews.
3. An alternative route for traffic in article 2 would not be required.
4. Exemptions would be provided in the Order to permit reasonable access to premises, so far as it is practical without interference with the execution of the said work and for works vehicles, any vehicle being used in connection with police, fire or ambulance purposes and anything done with the permission or at the direction of a police constable in uniform.
5. The Order would come into operation on the 16th November 2015 and would be valid for a maximum period of 18 months or until works are completed, whichever is the sooner.
6. Works would be expected to commence on Monday 16th November 2015 and last for 4 days. The dates specified are for guidance and informative purposes only and works may extend outside these dates.

Dated this 4th day of November 2015.

Chris Bainbridge
Head of Transport Policy & Network Management
Transport & Technical Services

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1) (SHEPHERD'S BUSH ROAD) TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC

1. The Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham hereby gives notice that in order to facilitate utility installation works to be carried out in the above named road, it intends to make an Order the effect of which would prohibit vehicular traffic in a section of the above named road.
2. Whilst works are in progress, or whilst the authorised traffic signs are displayed, no person shall cause any vehicle to proceed, stop, wait, load or unload in a section of Shepherd's Bush Road between its junctions with Goldhawk Road and Miller's Way.
3. An alternative route for traffic in article 2 would be in place via Glenthorne Road, Hammersmith Grove and Goldhawk Road.
4. Exemptions would be provided in the Order to permit reasonable access to premises, so far as it is practical without interference with the execution of the said work and for works vehicles, any vehicle being used in connection with police, fire or ambulance purposes and anything done with the permission or at the direction of a police constable in uniform.
5. The Order would come into operation on the 30th November 2015 and would be valid for a maximum period of 18 months or until works are completed, whichever is the sooner.
6. Works would be expected to commence on Friday 30th November 2015 and last for 1 day. The dates specified are for guidance and informative purposes only and works may extend outside these dates.

Dated this 30th day of October 2015.

Chris Bainbridge
Head of Transport Policy & Network Management
Transport & Technical Services

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1) VARIOUS ROADS (No. 2) TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC

1. The Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham hereby gives notice that to facilitate tree pruning works on or adjacent to the roads shown in column 1 of the Schedule to this notice and to prevent the likelihood of danger to the public and damage to the highway, it intends to make an Order the effect of which would be to prohibit vehicular and pedestrian traffic in those roads.
2. Whilst works are in progress, or whilst the authorised traffic signs are displayed, no person shall cause any vehicle to proceed, stop, wait, load or unload in the sections of road shown in columns 1 and 2 of the Schedule to this notice.
3. Alternative routes for diverted traffic would be available as shown in column 3 of the Schedule to this notice.
4. Whilst works are in progress or whilst the authorised traffic signs are displayed no pedestrian shall proceed in the sections of footway shown in columns 1 and 2 of the Schedule to this notice.
5. Whilst works are in progress or whilst the authorised traffic signs are displayed, the one way working in Bishop's Road would be suspended.
6. Exemptions would be provided in the Order to permit reasonable access to premises, so far as it is practical without interference with the execution of the said work and for works vehicles, any vehicle being used in connection with police, fire or ambulance purposes and anything done with the permission or at the direction of a police constable in uniform.
7. The Order would come into operation on Tuesday, 1st December 2015 and would be valid for a maximum period of 18 months or until works are completed, whichever is the sooner.
8. Works would be part of a rolling programme between Tuesday, 1st December 2015 and Thursday, 7th January 2016. The dates specified are for guidance and informative purposes and works may extend outside these dates.

Dated this 4th day of November 2015

Chris Bainbridge
Head of Transport Policy & Network Management
Transport & Technical Services

SCHEDULE STREET TREE PRUNING - ROAD AND FOOTWAY CLOSURES Monday, 1st December 2015 until Thursday, 7th January 2016

STREET 1	EXTENT 2	DIVERSION 3
Bishop's Road	Entire length Carriageway and footways	Via Filmer Road and Fulham Palace Road
Clonmel Road	Entire length Carriageway and footways	Via Bishop's Road, Kelvendon Road and Fulham Road
Beaumont Crescent	Entire length Carriageway and footways	Via North End Road

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Experienced Teaching Assistants – Level 1

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Experienced Early Years Educator – Level 2

Scale 5, spine points 22 - 25 (£23658 - £25620) pro rata, term time only

We are looking to appoint outstanding and experienced Teaching Assistants and Early Years Educators to join our successful team from January 2016. These full time posts offer an opportunity to provide support and guidance to children and their families by removing barriers to learning.

We are looking for someone who:

- Is an outstanding individual with high expectations for children
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- Has a good understanding of the range of pastoral support available to children and their families
- Has strong interpersonal skills
- Has experience of working with children and/or young people

Successful candidates will be asked to apply for an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check. Applicants will also be required to declare that neither they nor anyone who lives in the same household is a disqualified person under the Childcare (Disqualification) regulations 2009. Further information can be found at www.gov.uk

You can find out more about our school by visiting our website www.woodmansterne.london where you will find additional, essential information in the applicant pack. Shortlisted candidates will be invited for a school tour.

Closing date: **Friday 20th November 2015 @ 5pm**



www.woodmansterne.london Lambeth

Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea
Sion-Manning Roman Catholic Girls School (11-16) Group 4

St. Charles Square, London W10 6EL

Telephone: 020 8969 7111

Head: Mr J.P. Kehoe

Roll: 600

www.sion-manning.org.uk

DATA AND ASSESSMENT MANAGER

To start January 2016 or earlier if possible.

Salary : PO1 Spinal Point 33 £32,157.00

(Term time only + two weeks in late August - 41 weeks)

Sion-Manning Roman Catholic Girls School is situated in North Kensington, close to Portobello Road and Nottinghill Gate. We are a happy, vibrant learning community, with high aspirations for the students in our care and the staff team that supports them. We have strong links to the community.

We are seeking to appoint an efficient Data & Assessment Manager to join the school on a permanent basis.

The role will involve managing assessment information and producing school data analysis and reports to support the Senior Leadership Team and Governors ensuring the information provided is timely, accurate and relevant.

To be considered for this position, you will possess excellent ICT skills and the ability to analyse and manipulate data. Prior experience dealing with school data and using SIMS would be highly advantageous but not essential. The successful individual will possess exceptional planning and organisational skills including managing deadlines and the ability to demonstrate a high level of written and verbal communication skills when dealing with all stakeholders.

This is a fantastic opportunity to join a friendly and welcoming school.

For application forms contact Rosa Lagunas on 0208 969 7111 or via email rm.lagunas@sion-manning.org.uk or you can download an application form from: www.cesew.org.uk/employment-documents/application-forms

Application deadline: 20th November 2015 4.00 p.m.

Shortlisting: 24th November 2015 9.00 a.m.

Interviews: 30th November 2015



The Governors follow DfE policy and procedure on safeguarding and appointment will be subject to an enhanced DBS check and other requirements.

TWO PART TIME FEMALE HOMEHELPS WANTED

By disabled woman in Kennington,
pay £10 per hour, £11 per hour weekends

For both positions you need to be cheerful, cooperative, reliable, flexible and a quick worker. You also need to enjoy helping people, live fairly locally, and have a positive attitude towards gay people. Extra work available if you drive/own car or have handy person skills.

Position 1: Cook/Home help/General Assistant - regular hours 2 (or possible 3) evenings per week (usually 6pm - 7.15/7.30 pm) and one weekend morning per fortnight. Usually (10.30 am - 12.15/12.30 pm). Also occasional extra shifts on other days at similar times (if possible) to cover when other team members are absent. You need to be good at healthy cooking with vegetables, fish, chicken and eggs.

Position 2: Cleaner/Gardener/Home help/General assistant.
Hours 12 pm - 3 pm on either Tuesday or Wednesday, and one weekend morning per fortnight (10.30 am - 12.15/12.30 pm). Also, occasional extra mornings (similar times) or evenings (usually 6 - 7.15/7.30 pm). Additional hours for gardening (and driving or DIY if possible) as required - usually afternoons, day and time negotiable.

If interested in either job, call 07905 259 547

URBAN ANGELS MODELLING AGENCY

Urban angels are one of the UK's leading child model agencies, EST in 2003.

We are seeking a **FULL TIME MODEL BOOKER**. You must be a proactive, enthusiastic self-starter ideally with some experience but that's not essential if you have initiative and you are a quick learner. You must process excellent communication skills, a real peoples person. You should be computer literate to a high level on a Mac preferably with have some basic desktop publishing skills. The role includes booking models daily, coordinating the portfolio shoots with the parents, running the model board, web management and scouting.

Based in SW London

Salary: negotiable dependent on experience
send CV and covering letter to:

Alysia@urbanangelsagency.com

Recruiting Now in this Area 5 Working Partners Wanted

Distributors required for a Health, Nutrition & Wellness International company. Great opportunity for those who want to build a business working from home Full/PT.

FREE training given with excellent commission & benefits.



Please Call **07780 751 696**



St. Charles Catholic Sixth Form College is a highly successful beacon sixth form college situated in North Kensington. It provides for over 1150 16-19 year old full-time students following a range of courses from Foundation to Advanced level.

'Outstanding' grade awarded in OFSTED inspection - October 2007

Security/Site Care Assistant

C. £19,000 – 21,000 per annum, dependent on skills and experience

Full-time position required from January 2016

Application packs and further information can be obtained from the Principal's P.A., Mrs Debbie O'Sullivan. Alternatively, you can download an application form and further information from our website at www.stcharles.ac.uk.

Closing date: Friday, 20th November 2015.

Interview date: w/c 23rd November 2015.

St Charles Catholic Sixth Form College
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LONDON WEEKLY NEWS

sport

Rangers in turmoil again as Ramsey goes

ANOTHER season, another Queens Park Rangers manager. As we suggested just a few weeks ago, the return of Neil Warnock in an advisory role would inevitably increase the pressure on head coach Chris Ramsey – and so it proved with his sacking last week.

Warnock steps in as interim manager, although Saturday's 0-0 draw at home to Preston was not the start he had in mind.

R's didn't muster a single shot on target in a four battle at Loftus Road.

Warnock said: "I thought for the first hour we did well, without scoring a goal that would've put us in total control. It was for us to break them down and we didn't do it."

Didn't create

"That's what disappointed me, that despite being on the front foot – which can't be said for Preston – we didn't create enough chances."

"I thought we had opportunities in the first half to do better than we did, with better passing and movement."

"I was pleased with how we defended throughout the game. We stifled any threat from them and dominated the game."

Warnock added: "I learnt a few things today about one or two players. There were some plusses – I thought (Junior) Hoilett was excellent, because they tell me he's not played much football."

"I thought Ale (Faurin) and Sandro did well – and the two centre halves were magnificent for us."

Warnock replaces Ramsey, who was sacked following the 1-0 defeat to local rivals Brentford. The man who guided R's to promotion in 2011 added: "I'm disappointed for Chris. I spoke with him the other night and he wished me all the best. "Some people have

told me this squad is better than the one we had when we got promoted. Technically, it is very good but in the Championship sometimes you need more than that – you need more desire and passion at times."

"I am looking forward to seeing if the lads can come up with that little bit more. Everybody is going to have to be on their toes and we are going to have to be better than what we've been."

13-day break

Rangers now have a 13-day break before their next Championship outing at promotion-chasing Middlesbrough on Friday week (Nov 20) – and Warnock is happy to continue in the role as the club's search for a new boss continues.

"I'm enjoying helping out," he said. "I love this club – everyone knows what it means to me."

"The club has got to get the right man but I'll help out in the meantime. Me being here will allow the club time to get it right."



**LOFTUS ROAD
RANGERS REVIEW**
With Tony McDonald

Bobby Campbell

■ BOBBY Campbell, who had strong links to Chelsea, Fulham and QPR, died last Friday, aged 78.

He had his first taste of coaching with Portsmouth and later spent time in the capital with QPR and Arsenal, before joining Fulham as a coach under Alec Stock in the summer of 1976.

Before long Liverpool-born Campbell was promoted to manager following Stock's departure and remained in charge until October 1980. During his time at Craven Cottage he worked alongside players such as George Best, Bobby Moore, Les Strong and Les Barrett.

After leaving Fulham he had management spells with Portsmouth and then Chelsea, where he was boss from 1988 to 1991. In 1989, he secured Blues' promotion back to the top flight having taken over near the end of the previous season in which they were relegated. Chelsea finished fifth in the first division the following year.

Academy coach and ex-Chelsea star Jody Morris tweeted: "RIP Bobby Campbell. The first manager's office I ever walked into. Granted it was by mistake, as I was a ball-boy. He was a lovely fella who loved football. He was always down at Cobham watching the academy boys train."

Former player David Lee echoed those sentiments: "RIP Bobby Campbell. He gave me my Chelsea debut which is something I'll always treasure."

In recent times, such was his high standing within the club, Campbell was a regular fixture in Roman Abramovich's box watching first team games.

After leaving Stamford Bridge, Campbell had further coaching spells back with Aldershot and QPR.

● RUGBY UNION

HAMMERSMITH & Fulham were outmuscled 20-8 by Old Haberdashers in an arm wrestle of a game.

Battling for a place in the league's top three, Haberdashers proved too strong for the home side, shunting Hammers backwards at scrum-time for two push-over tries.

In a scrappy game, Hammers' weakness at the set-piece meant they could never gain a foothold in the visiting side's half and managed only a single consolation try at the death when the game was already well beyond them.

Captain James Smart said: "It's a wake-up call for us really. Our scrum and lineout have been good all season but we clearly got rumbled today, so we'll have to look at a few things before next week."

In wet and windy conditions at Hurlingham Park, neither side managed to bring their back lines into play in the first quarter. Hammers suffered injuries with prolific try-scorer Tony Bryant and scrum-half general James Gallo limping off early, which disrupted their play.

Hammers managed a late consolation try when second-rows James Roche and Smart combined to put wing Huw Bowen in for a score but it was far too late.

This Saturday Hammers visit Harpenden in a mid-table clash.



■ ON his way... Chris Ramsey was sacked after less than nine months in charge

JOB Centre staff have been working overtime in west London this week following much axe-wielding, so the focus here turns to those being linked to the vacant managerial positions at Fulham and QPR and whether Jose Mourinho can continue to hang by a thread at Chelsea.

Swansea City's Garry Monk was short odds-on favourite to become the next Premier League manager to lose his job as LWN went to press but the 'Special One' was still as short as 3/1 (4.00) to get the bullet from The Bridge.

Despite their woeful league form, I can't see Chelsea parting company with Mourinho for a second time while they are still contesting the

BETTIN£ BANTER

Champions League. It might sound crazy, but I still reckon it's a trophy they are capable of winning this season – and at 25/1, they are decent value.

As Chelsea themselves proved when they beat current favourites Bayern Munich on penalties in the 2012 final, the best team in Europe doesn't always win the continent's richest prize.

Former Leicester City manager Nigel Pearson is being linked to both QPR and Fulham. As we went to press, Pearson was 4/5 favourite

with Bet Victor to become R's next permanent manager, with Sky Bet and Coral offering a best-priced 6/5. Of course, these odds can change by the hour as rumour and gossip spread like wildfire.

Immediately behind Pearson in the betting were Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink (5/1), Neil Warnock (5/1), Alex Mcleish (10/1) and Tim Sherwood (12/1).

On Monday, Bet Victor were so confident that Steve Bruce will leave Championship leaders Hull City for Craven Cottage that he was 6/4 favourite, ahead of Harry Redknapp (4/1), Slavisa Jokanovic (4/1) and Pearson (6/1).

Tony McDonald



■ ROSS McCormack pulled a goal back for Fulham, who kept fighting

Fulham search

■ Continued from back page

Symons won 22 of his 64 games in charge of The Cottagers and steered them to a 17th-placed finish last season after taking on what many would consider a poisoned chalice.

In the years before money corrupted the beautiful game and managers were not perpetually two defeats away from the sack, Symons would have been hailed a force for good, a throwback to the days when supporters with more moderate expectations went home content that they had been fully entertained, without booing their own men or venting their spleen on Internet forums and social media, as they do after many defeats today.

Impatient fans

But increasingly fewer chairmen, who are often guilty of overreacting too quickly to the demands of impatient fans, aren't bothered about aesthetics. Fulham owner Shahid Khan doesn't care that his team have been one of the most watchable in the country this season. He demands results and has decided that Symons is no longer the man who can meet those expectations.

Khan said: "No-one can ever doubt the effort and commitment that Kit put into Fulham – not only as first team manager, but also as a player here and as a key figure in the success of our academy."

"Kit came through for us last year at this time and helped stabilise our club on and off the pitch, and we're very grateful for that and his many other contributions over the years."

"It is now time to take Fulham to the higher level of success that we expect from our first team manager and our players, and our supporters here in London and throughout the world deserve."

In many respects, Symons' final match in charge, Saturday's 5-2 home debacle against Birmingham City, was the embodiment of his turbulent 13-month reign.

Even before Fulham's James Husband was deservedly shown a red card in the 51st minute for the second of two needlessly mistimed tackles, Birmingham had already coasted into a 3-0 lead with goals from Stephen Gleeson, Paul Caddis (a penalty) and Jon Toral at the Hammersmith end.

It was typical Fulham, though, and another clear indication that Symon hadn't lost the dressing room, that h players had the resolve to keep coming forward and managed to get two goals back – through Alexander Kacaniklic and Ross McCormack – despite being a man down, before Clayton Donaldson and Viv Solomon Otabor killed off any lingering hope of a miracle fightback.

"What every manager wants in football is a bit of time to get things right," Symons said in his last post-match press conference. "Sometime: you are given it and sometimes you are not. There are two boys this week who weren't given the time to implement their ideas, so that's what we want to do."

"There's been a lot of change at this football club and I understand people getting a bit restless because of the lack of consistency. We've put in some exceptional performances lately but then we've had some very poor ones as well and today was a very poor one. And I'll hold my hands up for that."

Even a man with Khan's limited knowledge of football has probably been at a loss to understand why Symons, a former international centre defender whose playing career spanned more than 100 games each for Portsmouth, Manchester City and Fulham, has assembled a defence that has shipped 28 league goals. He lool at the table and notes that only bottom-of-the-table Rotherham have conceded more.

Symons is clearly a likeable guy, who was doing his best, but those damning statistics make it difficult to defend him. Last week's 3-1 defeat at Burnley (who are my tip to win the second tier) followed by Saturday's debacle proved to be the final straw.

Symons is the seventh manager to leave his job in the Championship since the start of the season and the third to be sacked inside four days following the dismissal of Chris Ramsey (QPR) and Chris Powell (Huddersfield).

With Fulham not in action again until Saturday week (Nov 21), when they visit struggling MK Dons, Mike Rigg, the club's chief football officer, has a fortnight between games to appoint the next man, or an interim.

SPORT

Thursday, November 12th, 2015

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Blues seek lucky breaks

UNDER pressure Chelsea manager Jose Mourinho is winning his battle to keep his job at Stamford Bridge.

Despite Saturday's seventh league defeat of the season at Stoke City, the Portuguese will still be in charge when Blues resume their ill-fated defence of the Premier League title with a home match against Norwich City on Saturday week.

LWN Sport was told at the weekend that the club's football board still believes Mourinho is the right man for the job.

It's worth recounting the statement issued on October 5, two days after the 3-1 home loss to Southampton: "The club wants to make it clear that Jose continues to have our full support.

"As Jose has said himself, results have not been good enough and the team's performances must improve.

"However, we believe that we have the right manager to turn this season around and that he has the squad with which to do it."

While results have been fitful, the Champions

● By LWN reporter **Paul Lagan**
sport@londonweeklynews.co.uk

League a source of comfort, three league defeats has seen 16th-placed Blues drop to within three points of the relegation zone after 12 matches.

The key elements of the statement are that the board supports him and that the performances must improve. With the exception of the 3-1 defeat to Liverpool, recent displays have been much improved, with Saturday's unfortunate 1-0 loss at the Britannia Stadium the pick of the bunch.

Credibility

Given the extraordinary vocal support by the travelling Chelsea fans for Mourinho, any attempt by the board to remove him now would be viewed as hypocrisy and would seriously dent owner Roman Abramovich's credibility.

A Chelsea source confirmed to LWN Sport that the situation had not changed, nor would they expect it to.



● **TOGETHER:** Chelsea players insist they are right behind their manager Pic: Rob Newell/Digital South



This week at STAMFORD BRIDGE

Serving a one-match stadium ban for his behaviour towards match officials in the 2-1 defeat at West Ham United in October, Mourinho watched the Stoke game from the team hotel having already given specific instructions to his assistant manager Steve Holland about game management, tactics and substitutions.

The club refused to allow Holland to conduct a post-match press conference, fuelling some of the more bizarre newspaper assertions that the likes of Brendan Rodgers or Roberto Di Matteo were being lined up to replace Mourinho.

One by one the players emerged from the changing room and headed straight for the team coach to take them away from the stadium. A quick handshake from Cesc Fabregas and Gary Cahill signalled their reluctance to stop and chat while giving the impression that they were not ignoring me.

Diego Costa meanwhile smiled and said in perfect English that he "didn't speak English, sorry".

But Nemanja Matic did answer the call – and he is confident that better times are just around the corner.

"We deserved more," said the Serbia midfielder. "We had some good chances to score a goal. But we were unlucky not to see the ball in the back of the net – this is the reason why we lost.

"I think that we did not play badly, we defended good, we attacked well and created lots of chances – three or four good chances, which we didn't take. Of course we are not happy because we lost but I hope in the future the luck will come for us.

"We showed in the last game in the Champions League (against Dynamo Kiev) and again against Stoke City that we played good football. But we are not being lucky.

"I don't want to say that all the games we have played this season have been good. Of course there have been some where we deserved to lose. But against Stoke this was not the case and we deserved more.

"The team is together, everyone understands the situation we are in."

It seems that the club and Matic are refusing to even consider the 'R' word – relegation.

"We don't look a lot at the table," he said. "Last year when we were champions, especially during the first 10-15 games, we also did not look at the table. We must try to play game by game and collect as many points as possible. So I think that the table is not realistic now. Chelsea has deserved more and we will try to recover the points we have lost up until now."

Influenced

Matic confirmed that Mourinho still influenced the performance at Stoke: "He prepared us before the game," he said. "In the last couple of training sessions, after the midweek game against Dynamo Kiev, Mourinho prepared everything at the training ground and we knew what we had to do against Stoke. So I think that we did our job well. They had only one situation where they were lucky to score."

Fellow midfielder Ramires said: "Another loss and our moment in the Premier League is not good but we will try.

"We played very well but we didn't score and that is football. If you play well but don't score, then concede a goal, you lose the game."

While Chelsea's senior side attempt to rebuild their season, the under-21s continue to progress by hammering Liverpool 4-0 at Cobham on Sunday – a game watched by Mourinho and his senior coaching staff.

They would have been impressed with goals from Bertrand Traore, Ruben Loftus-Cheek and a brace from former Pimlico Academy star Tammy Abraham.

The Under-18s played their part in an eight-goal thriller against Aston Villa. Two goals apiece from Mason Mount and Harvey St Clair earned a share of the spoils on Saturday.



Focus on Craven Cottage

By TONY McDONALD

Hard to defend nice guy Kit

KIT Symons played 36 times for Wales and made 435 league appearance as a centre-half in a playing career spanning 17 years. Ironically, it was his inability to construct a defence barely worthy of the name that cost him his job as Fulham manager last weekend.

Having scored more goals (29 in 16 matches) than any other Championship side this season, Whites should be challenging strongly in the top six. No doubt, they deserve plaudits for being a creative, attacking force and very pleasing on the eye going forward.

Instead, the brutal reality is that they are eight points adrift of the play-off places, floating rudderless in mid-table, because they have the second worst defensive record in the division.

Some say that for all his obvious affinity for the club, the 44-year-old was over-promoted when he was invited to step up from a youth coaching role to replace Felix Magath in October 2014. Well, that wasn't his fault; he was hardly going to turn down a golden chance to prove himself as first team manager.



● **NO DEFENCE:** Kit Symons' team leaked too many goals for their owner's liking

■ Continued on page 27